

HALLIE'S HISTORY. Hallie's Mother died when Hallie 4 years old. Raised by her father and her mother's parents. Lived with them while Father traveled.

Mother's parents owned the house. Rent free to them on their marriage. When daughter died, they sold their house, moved back in to take care of Hallie. Father traveled to sell pharmaceuticals. Lived well for years, then Dad brought home Ruby and Shelly, married.

Grandparents said Ruby would want her own house. Oh no. She can't cook. Wants them to stay. They'll love Shelly. She can stay in Hallie's room.

Ruby wants grandparents to be her servants. Talks of putting in a pool in the back where their garden is. Tells Gramps he'll have to learn to take care of the filter and "all those chemicals." Tells them they can use the pool too, since they own the house. Ruby believes in NOW. No concept of future. Why not enjoy the money NOW? Puts in a pool. It's Hallie's college fund.

Big fight. Grandparents leaving. Want to take Hallie with them. Dad says no. Very angry because Ruby wants them to stay.

Say they'll let him stay in the house for Hallie's sake but if that woman put in a pool I'll start charging you rent. She did; he did. Dad had to work harder, took some foreign jobs that he didn't want. Gone all the time, which made Ruby very angry.

Dad seemed to think Ruby, the party girl who loved men and bars, would change into a loving, dutiful mother.

Hallie was miserable. Invasive Shelly always in her room. She was so cute — even cried prettily — she was forgiven for everything. Hugged adults. Shelly allowed to do *anything*. Extremely jealous of Hallie who was so smart and talented and orderly. Shelly lived in a world of "I can't."

Shelly was a sneak, always in Hallie's room. Clever little monkey. Could break and enter anywhere. Would sneak into Hallie's room and pour nail polish over things. Cut dolls and toys. Breaks things. Hallie locked her door. Girl cried so prettily, Hallie got bawled out. Pooooor Shelly. Hallie punished even though Shelly ruined something. "Accidentally" stepped on school project.

Hallie said to be so self sufficient but Shelly wasn't. She'd always been needy.

Shelly sang and danced badly, but was praised for everything. Truth was she had no real talent at anything. Hallie's college fund was used for Shelly. Special classes: dancing, singing, reading, tutors. Trips to do things. Was social, needed to fit in with the other kids. Private school.

Mother wanted Hallie to give Shelly money. "She really needs it. Her acting/dancing/singing career is about to take off, then she'll shower all of us with riches." "You think so?"

Ruby spends like crazy. Mostly on 2 girls. Is good hearted but she's lazy. Doesn't clean, cook, do laundry. House horrible. Food from a can.

Ruby used sex to get things for her daughter. Father came home from trips loaded with presents for Shelly or he was sleeping on the couch.

Shelly had to have everything Hallie did, but her grandparents taught her to work for things. New computer? Weed the garden for the whole summer.

Then it was the cheapest model.

If Dad returned with cheap model, he slept on the couch. Went out the next day and exchanged it for the top model, spent the afternoon in the bedroom with Ruby with the door closed.

So you'd already lost your mother, then your grandparents and your father left you at the same time.

You make it sound so horrible! There were good times. I got along well with Ruby. If she was in a good mood, she was a lot of fun.

What about Shelly? Was she fun?

No. (Laughs) I can honestly say that Shelly was never, ever, at any time, what I'd call *fun*.

My problem was Shelly and her mother lived on fast food and never gained weight. Mountains of buttered popcorn and bags of chips. They stayed skinny while I got fat.

By the time I was 18, I knew Ruby wasn't being faithful to Dad. I wanted to tell him but I knew it would make him miserable so I didn't say anything. But I think he knew. When I'd go home from college, things weren't pleasant. One time I said, "I bet if you bought Shelly a really nice gift, Ruby would be really happy."

I wish it were that simple.

Hallie goes to U Mass and studies to be a physical therapist. Her father sells pharmaceuticals and introduced her to medicine. She was the neighborhood doctor. Saw people struggling to recover. Surgery, go home, take pills, but then what? They were never the same, didn't know *how* to recover, so she wanted to help them. Maybe Mrs. Westbrook.

A few months later I turned 21 and both my dad and Ruby were killed in a car crash. Both parents died in a car wreck while Shelly still in high school.

Shelly was a mess. Near hysterical, begged Hallie to stay with her until she graduated.

How old was Shelly?

16, with 2 more years of high school to complete.

Shelly went to live with her father?

I don't think Ruby knew who he was.

So who took care of her?

Me. (Cuts off.)

So how did you support the 2 of you?

I quit college, got 3 jobs, put a mortgage on the house, borrowed from my grandparents, sold the 4 pieces of jewelry of my mother.

Did Shelly help financially?

Hallie quit college — didn't go back. Stayed in house her grandfather had bought and looked after Shelly. Got a job in a doctor's office, another job on weekends. Lost interest in physical therapist as supporting Shelly took everything.

Put up with Shelly's hysterics and drama, constant complaints. Hallie had a year and a half of taking care of Shelly.

No. (Visions of tantrums over clothes “like the other girls have,” the latest of whatever Apple made, a car “why is it so *old*?” was her thanks. Shelly has a bit of an entitlement issue. I was just so tired, I gave in to her.

The day of her high school graduation Shelly left with her boyfriend.

Said thanks to you for taking care of her?

Hardly! It wasn't a pleasant parting.

Just before graduation, Shelly ran off with a boy, said she would *never* come back. House half hers but she says house was in such bad shape that it was worth nothing. Shelly tells Hallie to keep the house. She makes dig at Hallie, saying she knows Hallie is in love with Braden, the guy who lives across the road. “You two are a perfect match as he's as boring as you are.” Shelly say she's going to CA with her boyfriend and will stay there forever. I'm going to break into the movie industry. Watch for me on the big screen.” Man picks her up in a car. Left in a blast of anger.

Hallie left alone with a house that needed repair, no money. Worked, went to school, repaired old house. She stays where she is because she *is* in love with Braden. She broke up with 2 boyfriends because they weren't Braden, who is a lawyer now. Her fantasy man.

Years pass. Hard for Hallie to survive. At one point thought she was going to have to sell house. Hallie worked hard to pay all bills.

But she returned.

Six months ago. Waited for me to sell my house and give her half of it. Shelly truly believes that my father left a big life insurance policy and that I kept all of it. Truth is there was a policy but he'd borrowed heavily against it. By the time the debt was paid off, there was barely enough to pay for the elaborate double funeral.

Jamie knew the rest of the story and he was sorry he had been part of it. What did you do after you found out about Shelly's, uh, duplicity?

I told her I'd had enough. I'd reached my breaking point. If she could find a buyer for the house, I'd give her half the money, then I never wanted to see her again. So far, I haven't heard from her. I thought that by now she'd be sending me contracts to sign.

Lauren Jane Meredith — Mother died when Hallie 4 — 1991

Hyacinth “Hallie” Lauren Hartley born 1987

father and stepmother died 2008

father remarried Ruby Prather 1998

Shelly born 1991

Braden born 1982

BRADEN Hallie didn't sell house because his mother lived across the road. Hallie always liked him. His house was so quiet and calm, so *clean* compared to hers. Babysat Braden's little brother. Braden 5 years older than Hallie. She was 12, Braden was 17. Little brother was 6. Braden 11 years older than brother. 2013 brother is 20. Hallie was as much in love with their life as anything else. Helped in their garden as she used to do with her

grandparents.

Shelly knew Hallie was hot for Braden. Always wanted to be a lawyer. But she was physical.

SHELLY RETURNS

Just as Hallie about to get her physical therapist license, Shelly shows up. Had a hard life. Lots of drama and angst. Everything that happens to her is worse than what happens to anyone else.

Shelly says the house should be half hers, so she can live there. Won't get a job. Pays no rent, doesn't help with expenses. But hears of jobs. Big sob story.

Hallie almost has her license in physical therapy. Possible job. Out of debt. She's had one serious relationship but they fought about money. Wanted different things in life. Boyfriend got a job offer in CA. He asked her to go with him but she realized she didn't want to spend her life with him. Why? TRUTH: she wanted to be near Braden.

Shelly had a hard time. Movies? No talent. Turn a camera on me and I just stand there. Couldn't find *anything* I was good at.

BRADEN: never married. His mother didn't like the girl. Always hoped he'd marry Hallie. With that recommendation, she thought she had a chance.

Braden coming home for Christmas. His parents throwing big party. Hallie buys clothes she can't afford for the whole season: party, sweater and slacks, shoes.

Braden shows up with a girl. Shelly returns and Hallie too depressed to even fight her. One battle at a time.

Shelly goes to party wearing Hallie's new dress. Returns telling of how awful she is. TRUTH: had a scene with Braden. Likes her dress. Kisses him. Has to get back to her sister.

Braden actually loves Shelly. He returned home so often, didn't buy his parents a new house, because he's always liked Shelly. Has always known what a lot of trouble she was, but to his humdrum home life, she was exciting. He thinks humdrum; Hallie thinks orderly and calm.

Braden knew Hallie liked him but he wasn't interested. Too much like him. Shelly was unpredictable.

He KNEW what Shelly was doing. KNEW his mother planned all the Christmas festivities to get him and Hallie together. He didn't want to have to say no and disappoint everyone.

Braden was thrilled when Shelly showed up at Christmas. Kissed her.

MYSTERY: Braden has an idea of what Shelly is up to. He took package over to be given to Hallie. Knows Jared's name. Later asks Hallie about package. She says she never heard of him. Asks Shelly. Her face turned red.

He did some sleuthing, found out about a Hartley who died. Left it all to Hallie — but she doesn't know about it.

Braden's mother says she's baking for Shelly. Has an important gentleman guest coming. Braden removes Hallie's xx bag from the back seat of her car. She has to return to get it, sees Jared, finds out all.

BRADEN DID IT ALL !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

SHELLY'S SIDE OF IT ALL

1. Shelly, watching TV, is annoyed that Hallie, who doing homework, tells her to answer the doorbell. It's an official-looking package for Hallie. Shelly starts to tell her but then lies and says it was someone selling something. She puts the package behind a chair, forgets about it.
2. That night she gets it out, opens it. Smoking, blowing smoke out the window. Sees that Hallie is to inherit a house on Nantucket through her father. Internet search, could be worth a million.
3. She thinks Hallie gets everything, all the breaks. Shelly couldn't go to college — someone else's fault. Remember how it was when she and Mother got there? They were nearly starving but Hallie had a beautiful bedroom with a computer and everything. All she's ever wanted is for things to be *equal* between us. Isn't that fair? To be equal? So is her inheriting something from a man she never even met *equal*? No. Not in anyway. Just wants to see what it is. You know how secretive Hallie is, how she hides things from me. She never wants to share anything. I just want to know what it is that she's getting for *free*, then I'll know what to do to make things equal between us.
4. She emails Jared as though she is Hallie.
5. MEETING Set it up for him. Pens on the coffee table. Made a pitcher of margaritas. Odd in the early afternoon. Shelly flirts with Jared. She's very pretty. Open, low cut dress. Wide belt around her little waist.
6. **OPENING SCENE.** Hallie driving home from work. Everything coming together for her. License, possibility of a job, love life a little bit, well, nonexistent. Glances at house. Braden wasn't home, visiting his mother. Maybe she'd apply for a job in Boston and just happen to run in to him and who knew what could happen? One who got away . . .
Happiness gone. A big dark blue BMW in driveway. A man. Had to be. Tiptoe in, get her xx gear and leave. Later she'd be told in detail how he'd done rotten things to Shelly, how she didn't deserve it, how everyone took advantage of her.

Car: leather seats. Not like Shelly's usual guys. She let the men in suits take her out to dinner, but she went home with the bike riders.

Hallie comes in the back door, hears the male rumble of a voice. Sees them. Jared is gorgeous. Shelly was dressed in Hallie's best suit. Her "job interview suit." She knew he was coming.

Tiptoeing. Doesn't want to interrupt but then hears Shelly saying her name. Listens. Man says, "You sound like you've had a hard time of it, Hallie." Rolls eyes. What is Shelly playing at now? Can hear her later. "I *had* to be you, Hallie. I had no other choice." Starts to move on but man says, "If you'll just sign here, Hallie, the property will be yours." Tell Hallie about the house, left to her by a distant relative. Don't really know the connection. Henry's will

told that he'd found her and she was related to Leland Hartley who married one of the daughters of a man who owned the house back in Shelly.

Jared shows her the emails he received from Shelly saying she was Hallie.

"Shelly, *this* time you've gone too far."

Goes to her room. 20 minutes. Duffle bags, tote bags, throws it all inside. Jared stands by the door. Doesn't know what to say.

Shelly says she was very angry at Hallie because she wouldn't put the Boston house up for sale and give Shelly half the money. The whole thing is so very unfair. We'll just trade houses. Hallie can keep the one in Boston and Shelly will take the one in Nantucket. "That's fair, isn't it? And then you'll be able to stay near Braden."

Hallie asks Jared how much the Nantucket house is worth. "About 1.2 million." (Jared realizing that Hallie can handle Shelly and knows her well.)

"You're always the lucky one. Not me. I've had to work for everything."

JARED WITH HALLIE.

Tells Hallie he was presumptuous but they got her a job. Jilly did, anyway. She's his cousin, about to marry my father-in-law. Henry in hospital, asks to see Jared. He was often with Aunt Addy. Has named Jared executor of his will. Says she graduates in 6 weeks. Henry dies that night. Jared sends letter to Hallie.

A week later, Jamie tears his knee and Jilly asks him to come to Nantucket for his physical therapy. Sends him copy of the passport with Shelly's photo.

Jamie and Shelly start emailing and texting. Shelly asks Hallie questions so she can give him answers. She finds out that he's rich.

4 months. Shelly has been home. Same old Shelly, nagging Hallie to sell the house, not contributing to the household expenses. It was nice having company. Hallie had had enough of living alone. Ever since xx had moved out a year ago. It had been too much for her. Shelly represents herself as Hallie to Jamie. Hallie sees it as identity theft. Shelly sees it as "What else could I do?"

Tell Hallie about the house, left to her by a distant relative. Don't really know the connection. Henry's will told that he'd found her and she was related to Leland Hartley who married one of the daughters of a man who owned the house back in Shelly.

Jared first to contact her. That's in the package that Braden gives her. He knows who Jared Montgomery is. Impressed. Says that he's the executor of Henry Bell's will and has left the house to Hallie Hartley. Shelly is stunned. Hallie always has the luck.

Jared shows her the emails he received from Shelly saying she was

Hallie.

Jared tells there's a problem. Man moved into house.

Tells her he knows little of Jamie. Cousin but distant and he's only recently met the family. Tore his knee skiing in xx (foreign country.)

Is he gorgeous?

Kind of short and stocky. Just a kid, really.

Rich?

His mother is the writer, Cale Anderson.

That would be good enough for Shelly. I'll deal with it, but then I'm accustomed to cleaning up my step sister's messes.

Henry lived on ground floor, made living room into bed, bath added. Lived alone. No one knew how sick he was.

Hallie is the one who knows about gardens — mother, grandparents had a big one

has done some house remodeling (couldn't afford a contractor — doesn't do roofs)

great career ahead of her

can cook

PEOPLE BELIEVE WHAT THEY'RE TOLD

Jared doesn't know much about it. Henry Bell was Aunt Addy's friend. Both of them were rather reclusive. His father invented something for submarines and made a fortune, retired and bought Hart's Ease.

Henry was a friend of my Great Aunt Addy's. Years ago Aunt Addy asked me to be the executor of his will and I agreed. I couldn't very well have done otherwise.

The house's quarterboard is Hart's Ease, but locally it's known as the Hartley-Bell house, so I assume you're related to the Hartley side of that.

Don't know much about my father's side of the family. I always meant to ask him, but never did.

Both your parents are dead?

Yes.

Mine too.

Jared a bit nervous. Really sorry about being duped.

Don't think about it. My stepsister and I have a history.

7. **JARED AND HENRY IN HOSPITAL.** Henry knows about Hallie Hartley, says she's about to get her physical therapy license. Henry asks Jared to find her a job on the island — at least one that will keep her there for a summer.

Henry wrote a codicil while in the hospital. Knew he was dying. Has been keeping up with Hallie over the years. Impressive young woman.

Jared knows she just got her physical therapy license. Tells how she supported her sister.

No long correspondence. Jared visited Henry in the hospital. He was a good friend of Addy's. He always admired Addy for leaving her house to someone for a year. That worked out so very well. He asks Jared to help her

as she hasn't had an easy life.

Henry met Hallie once. Attended her father's funeral, met Ruby and Shelly. Frivolous young woman. Not like Hallie at all. "Do you believe in emotions being passed down through the centuries? Leland Hartley had a very hard time in his life. What was done to him and Juliana was criminal. That difficulty in life seems to have been passed all the way down to young Hallie. I'd like to try to make up for some of what my ancestor did to that family." "Get Thomas to tell the story."

Henry specified that Jared wasn't to contact Hallie until after xx date. That's when she got his license. Wasn't to turn over keys to her until that date. Henry says she'll need a way to earn a living. Nephew had a skiing accident and tore his knee. He's in a cast now but when he gets his brace off he'll need lots of therapy.

Henry tells him that Hallie is nearly drained dry by Shelly so she'll probably sell the house right away. Hallie to spend the summer there. Not a requirement, but asks Jared to help her be able to stay.

Says something cryptic about Leland Hartley and what Henry's ancestor did to him and Juliana.

Jared can't "fix" the house, leave it as is. Door to parlor nailed shut. Can be cleaned, but not repaired.

8. **JAMIE'S PAST.** JAMES MICHAEL TAGGERT. CALE AND KANE
Cale and Kane had a boy then a girl. She had 4 little kids and that was enough. Much later Cale found she was pregnant again. Twins, a boy and a girl. Took names from Taggert family tree.

Could be Houston and Blair. Raine Taggert and Blair Taggert. Jace.

The idea is to show how good they are with guests. Jamie has always lived with lots of people.

Kids see Thomas in the garden.

IDEA of a happy book. Lots of family. Family is not something Hallie has had much of. Father always gone. Grew up with grandparents who were quiet and slow. Not much activity. Then came Ruby and Shelly. Sometimes it was fun but Ruby spent too much, the house was dirty, and "Dad didn't like her." He stayed away more. As for Shelly, she was always sneaking into my room. Skipping classes at school. "We were cut out of different cloth."

Hallie has had a lot of death and unhappiness in her life.

JAMIE was in the service. Seems to be a happy-go-lucky man. But has PTSD. Wakes with night mares.

He makes jokes, covers nightmares and terrors. She assumes he's a rich kid, never had anything bad happen to him, but he's covering a lot of trauma. Served 2 tours in Iraq. (Research.) Wasn't hurt, goes skiing and tears his knee.

He has scars on his body from shrapnel. Jamie won't let her see him naked. No massages. She thinks he'll get aroused. Makes fun of

him.

Shrapnel. His family knows what happened to him. Tried to help him, but it's backfiring. They tiptoe around him, speak to him in whispers. They care, care, care. They got a PTSD therapist, best physical guys. Best of everything. Family soooo understanding. Even the children.

Todd took leave of absence, moved into room with Jamie. Kept his nightmares quiet. Sweats. Didn't know Kane and Cale were outside the door. Maybe Todd goes out to them. Kane carries Cale to bed. She's sobbing too hard to walk.

Cale cried to Jilly of the problem. Jamie isn't recovering. Took him skiing. Blacked out on the slope. One of his attacks. Heard machine gun fire. Freaked. Fell, tore his knee.

Jilly called with news that girl in Henry's house has physical therapy license. Sent photo of her, pretty. Exchanged emails, liked her. (Shelly asked for Hallie's help on these so a lot of the quotes are from her. Shelly said she wanted to make the guy think she was smart. "He'll soon learn otherwise." Always helping Shelly.)

Jamie glad for the chance. Felt bad that everyone acting like he's an invalid. Todd could go back to work.

9. **LITTLE TWINS.** What if Cale's twins tell Hallie that whoever can tell the twins apart are in love?

SCENE: brats test her. Show her photos. She knows which is which. Threatens them if they tell she'll throw them out. "What do we get for *not* telling?" Feeds them special things. Especially Jamie. Doesn't want them spoiled. Hallie is our slave.

Jamie sits the 2 of them down and demands to know what's going on. They don't mind that he knows, just that he doesn't release Hallie from their power. Jamie gives them things to ask of her.

Jamie had a physical therapist named Bruno. Huge. Ugly. Former boxer, face looks like he lost every fight.

10. **JAMIE AND HALLIE MEET.** He looks her up and down. Comes on to her. Passionate. She says, "Touch me and you're out of here." First: he's beautiful — and trouble. She bawls him out, walks away. Jamie looks at Jared, hands crossed over his heart, kissing motion. He mouths, "I love her," and he means it. Jared shakes his head, leaves.

11. **HOUSE.** HOME DESIGN

In what used to be the chicken house, Henry made a sanctuary/workshop for himself. Big room, bath, arbor in front with shade plants.

Twig's men remodeled it. Good shape, really.

Jamie is already in house. Made workshop into a gym. He asked Shelly

what was needed for his injury. She asked Hallie. Got the equipment. Shelly arranged for Jamie to move into the house. All done before Hallie knew what was going on.

House odd. Ground floor has a big room sealed off. No way to get into it. Upstairs hardly used. Sitting, 2 beds, 2 baths. House in back that could be used for equip.

Hallie meets Jilly Taggart. Jilly is to get married in August, she's pregnant, worried about her age. NANTUCKET

loves the house. Passionate about the garden. Most beautiful place she's ever seen.

12. **TEA LADIES' PAST.** CALEB. Knows the ladies. Jamie and Hallie never see the ghosts. They've met their True Loves so they don't see them.

But they hear about them often. B&B guests wander over. Have tea, talk to the ladies. But the room is nailed shut. They unnailed it. Clean it, restore it.

CALEB — He can, of course, talk to ghosts. See them. Some of his old friends are still hanging around. Goes to someone's house and tells the ghost to come out, needs to talk to him about the Bell girls and how they did.

JULIANA AND LELAND'S WEDDING

1. Juliana in love, Hyacinth happy for her
2. Introduce Thomas — loves the girls, watches everything
Juliana is worried that her father will be very angry. Leland, "Quit being afraid of him. He's just a man and once we're married, what can he do? They'll leave the island, live with his family in Boston.
Thomas goes to Obed Kingsley's store to pick up more wine. Obed tells him he just saw Bell. Not supposed to be back for 3 days. "Probably thrown out of wherever he was. Cantankerous old man! Even when I told him the news of his daughter's wedding he didn't smile." Obed told out of spite.
Thomas runs to garden. Forbes there, madness in his eyes, staring at tree. Thomas knows who is buried there.
Thomas must warn the young man. Forbes has killed before, will kill again. Forbes coming after him as he'd done before.
Thomas has seen the look in Forbes's eyes once before. Thomas puts flower around tree. "She always liked lilies of the valley."
Thomas arrives, sweaty, eyes frantic. "He has returned early."
Juliana reacts immediately but Leland doesn't. "Bell can't do anything. We're married." "You *must* go." Hits Leland over the head, bound and gagged. Hides him.
Decorations torn down. Girls change clothes. When Bell got home,

nothing had changed.

Later, Thomas drags Leland onto wagon. Pays man to hide him on ship. Leland has angry eyes. Hatred of Thomas. "I'm saving you from worse than death." Says he'll get him tomorrow, but ship leaves with Leland on it. Dark, got ships mixed up. Or someone did. Thomas had to get back, couldn't be gone long. Paid man to put Leland in the hold of xx ship. Was put on xx ship instead. Thomas went to get him, hold empty. Leland had been shipped out, wouldn't return for about 7 years. PUT ON THE WRONG SHIP.

But Forbes never missed anything. Girls out of breath. Thomas sweaty. Flower petal on the floor. Next day began checking registers. Asking questions. Never left the island again.

Thomas feels responsible for the girls' imprisonment. Leland might have been able to get Juliana away from him. He should have killed Forbes and consequences be damned. ALL HIS FAULT. DEATH: Forbes put poison in their favorite tea, then he left town. Died alone, while he was away. Tea they only drank at bed time.

Doctor didn't know what killed them. Forbes's grief is so bad Thomas doubted what he knew. Couldn't believe the man capable of that. Could kill wife and Leland, yes, but not those beautiful girls.

7 years later, Thomas meets the ship. Leland hits Thomas, then Thomas tells him girls are dead. Cries. Wants to confront Forbes. Thomas says Forbes will go after his family. OR Leland *does* confront the old man. Nothing Leland can do about anything. Girls are dead. Goes to garden and cries. Thomas sees him, hides. Plants something he brought back from somewhere. Some exotic plant — 2 of them?

WHAT PLANTS INTRODUCED IN 1804 YEAR?

What if Leland buries gifts he brought back? Something that could last hundreds of years underground? OR hides in the house. Pictures of the girls. Miniatures done from memory.

Book could start with the wedding of Leland and Juliana.

13. **B&B. SEA HAVEN INN**

CHARACTER: annoying B&B woman. Owner is angry because her guests go to their house and have tea, then compare it to theirs and complain. Do you have a license for *this*?

This is how Tea Ladies are introduced in the book.

Named Betty? Husband Howard?

SCENE: Betty bawling Edith out, Jamie defends her, tells woman to go away — but nicely. Charms her. Locks the gate after her.

NEXT DOOR

B&B run by Betty and Howard. Betty's mother lives with them. She wanders off. She likes their garden. Talks to Thomas. Has tea with ladies. Edith Langhorn. She sketches the look of the parlor — sees it the way it was.

Edith is a sweet, quiet lady who Betty considers to be in the way. She is Howard's mother.

Howard is the baby of the family. Adores his older mother. IDEA: Edith stands up to her daughter-in-law. Betty is a bitch.

Truth: Edith owns the B&B. She and her husband were going to run it but he died. Betty and Howard took over. The idea was that Edith would eventually take over but Betty went on a campaign to make Edith think she was incompetent. Plan to have her declared incompetent. Needs backers to sign the papers. Have her committed.

Tea Ladies introduce Edith to Facebook. Boyfriend from high school contacts her. Visits. Marry. Edith announces she's sold the place to Jamie and Hallie, she's going on a cruise. Howard is glad. B&B too much work for him.

Betty: He's just after your money.

Like you are, Betty? At least with Arnie I can *share* it. With you, you want it *all* for yourself.

Arnie has money. Jared knows Arnie, has built a house for him. Very wealthy man.

After marriage Edith can't see ghosts.

14. **JILLY.** TAGGERT TWINS: Don't make a big deal of it. Don't even mention it. Readers will know. Jamie needs to hide something he did.

JILLY: she likes Hallie very much. Make up some scene where Jilly and Hallie bond. Jilly is matchmaking. She has the perfect relative for Hallie. Is it an opposite or a man who is just like her? Is it Jamie Taggart?

How does she get involved in Jilly's wedding? Jilly asks Jared to drag his feet about the will. If Hallie is given that right now, she will sell the house and leave Nantucket forever. She is a young woman who is alone, has been severely damaged, and needs time to recover. The last thing she needs is to be set adrift in the world with money. She will be pounced on by every gigolo out there.

Jamie needs quiet to recover, but he is bored out of his mind. Making everyone in Maine miserable with his complaining and restlessness. Jilly puts him in the house with Hallie.

15. **SOLVING THE MYSTERY.** WEDDINGS

who is getting married in this book? Where are the weddings? Jilly, who is Jamie's aunt? What if I did some flashbacks to the time of Juliana and Hyacinth? Getting ready to marry.

Take boards off room. Henry left diaries? Caleb knows about them. Paper found in doll's arm.

Maybe Jamie and Hallie don't see them because they are on the right track toward love. They show up when Edith arrives.

16. **SHELLY ARRIVES.** Half way through the book, Shelly shows up engaged to Braden. Hallie very upset. Shelly is just doing this to get back at her.

Hallie assumes Jamie will like Shelly better. Everyone does. Things change when Shelly shows up.

Sister can cry at will about her awful life, her mother dying, her endless struggles to find a job, etc. Makes her life seem a tragedy, some of it Hallie's fault for not caring, not helping her. Hallie has n't said anything bad about Shelly, but Shelly assumes she has. So Jamie asks Hallie about her sister. He's trying to find out the truth, but she thinks he's interested in her as a girl.

Wants a Nantucket wedding as that's all the rage.

Wants Hallie to be her MOH so she can boss her around. But everyone says it's an honor for her.

17. **RESEARCH**

- a. Physical therapy
- b. PTSD
- c. Tea recipes in box — 1799 (?) to present
- d. Dateline
 - i. What happened when: born, died, Forbes died, Thomas

18. **PTSD**

- a. Neither Hallie or the reader has any idea what Jamie is like, what he's done. Jared knows nothing. Jamie likes that she (and Shelly) don't know.
- b. Jamie lies! Doesn't sleep. Says it's because life is so exciting. It takes Hallie a while to figure out things. Helps him keep it from Paige
- c. **SCENE:** Something sets Jamie off and she realizes he's about to flip out *in front of Paige*. She gets Paige out of there, goes back to calm Jamie down.
 - i. IDEA: Paige has tea with the ladies. Hallie asks them to appear?
- d. Jamie to Jilly: "Please don't tell her about me. She thinks I'm a rich, frivolous playboy and I like that. I *need* that.
- e. **LIKE ARROW.** Playboy, good time, then returns and everything is different. Paige and he have been in love since college. She's a good girl, but he's a different man.
- f. Jamie didn't feel trauma or even horror while he was there. Knew he was doing something that was necessary, even good. Only later did it all hit him. "Delayed onset PTSD."
- g. "Locking and loading." Locking down fears, loading a weapon
- h. ROE – rules of engagement. Meant to protect civilians but very frustrating
- i. Hallie thinks Jamie is weird. Startles easily. Never sleeps. Bad temper. Can't concentrate. Takes her a while to realize he's PTSD.
- j. Drinks more, dreams less, mood swings, can't manage anger and

irritability toward others. Anger over menial things.

- i. Jumpy at thunder, door slams, fireworks
- ii. Pounding heart, shaking, sweating, restlessness
- k. **SCENE:** something sets Jamie off (dog barking?) He leaps on Hallie to protect her.
 - i. Is this what makes everything click in her mind? Makes him remove his clothing to see injuries.
- l. **PHYSICAL PROBLEMS**
 - i. Chronic headaches
 - ii. Memory difficulties
 - iii. Joint or back pain
 - iv. Sexual problems (impotence or loss of interest — sex thoughts bring back memories)
- m. Massage — hard, deep tissue. Jamie sleeps on the table. She stays near him so he doesn't roll off the table
- n. Brain trauma — sleep, avoidance of drugs and alcohol help heal it
- o. After Afghanistan
 - i. Loud noise: throw himself to the ground. This made him angry. Sleep 2 hours, then wake, couldn't go back to sleep. Nightmares, tried to avoid them by not sleeping. Crowds made him nervous. Drank more.
- p. **ANGER:** family understands, are caring, loving. Kids are scared. Humiliates him. Hallie stands up to him.
- q. Hyper alert. Flashbacks
- r. Angry when his things are moved. Hallie says she's not his servant.
- s. Primary emoting is anger. Can control fear with anger.
- t. Sleep deprivation takes away control.
- u. **SLEEP** is #1 need.
 - i. 4 hours at a time in war
 - ii. More booze = more anger = less sleep
- v. Common emotional condition is feeling no emotion at all. They call it "emotional control."
- w. **SCENE:** Hallie thinks Jamie is crazy. Talks to his mother, Cale. She cries on the phone, tells some of what he went through. Jamie has lied.
- x. **SCENE:** Hallie gives him research to do. Take his mind off what's in it. He can't concentrate, can't sleep. This is so boring that it might help you. Cook together? Tells him to focus on someone else. What made them ghosts?
- y. Make a calm environment for him.
- z. **SCENE:** cooking. Loud noise, Jamie panics, knocks it all over. Embarrassed. She makes him clean it up. No sympathy.
- aa. Return home: monitor escape routes, control emotions, thought processes on survival.
- bb. **SCENE:** she stands up to him. Yells back at him. Unafraid.

- Walks out of the room, cries. He really, really scared her.
- i. Jilly sees this. Wants to take Jamie away? No. I can handle it. He needs someone he doesn't scare.
 - ii. Jamie tells Jilly that Hallie has no emotions. She's colder than he is. Jilly: "If you weren't so damned *big* I'd put you over my knee and spank you for that." Leaves. Never seen her angry. Never hit anyone.
- cc. Jamie needs to forgive himself.
- dd. For Jamie to do:
- i. Accept himself. Don't get more angry at his reactions. Forgive himself. Laugh about it. SCENE: she drops a baking sheet.
 - ii. Physical conditioning
 - (1) stretch
 - (2) relax muscles — combat ready: elevated shoulders (to carry heavy pack) hands in fists
 - (3) aerobic
 - (4) strength
 - (5) diet
 - (6) sleep
- ee. YOU'RE A WARRIOR, A FIGHTER, A SURVIVOR AND YOUR BODY IS DOING EXACTLY WHAT IT'S LEARNED TO DO IN ORDER TO TAKE CARE OF YOU.
- ff. Herb: valerian for sleep
- gg. Woken from sleep — ends on top of her, ready to slam into her face
- hh. Hallie's boxing teacher, Hank, shows up. Jamie gets angry, demands attention. "I can tell PTSD from a jealous fit."
- ii. Combat teaches to pay attention to warning signs: hair raised, heart speeding, breath quickening. Feel something bad is about to happen. Fear promotes flight.
- jj. Can't concentrate. Need familiar environment. Same people; few people
- kk. **SCENE** When Hallie arrives, Jamie has been there a few days. Empty whiskey bottles. "Great. An alcoholic."
- ll. Ask: What are you afraid of? Embarrassment, being ostracized, can't escape (get out) death. FEAR OF LOSING PAIGE (Hallie tells of Braden?)
- mm. IDEA: Paige is out of the country. Has he seen her since he got back? She's doing something great and can't leave. When she returns they're to get married. He's afraid he'll make a fool of himself before her.
- i. What if they both idealize 2 people? Been in love with a person since teenage. Jamie with Paige through high school. Broke up over college but graduated and got back together.
 - ii. Who went away first? Mutual decision?
- nn. Why did Jamie become a soldier? Always wanted to serve his country.
- oo. Run a B&B to help people like him? One room always free to fellow

warriors.

- pp. TIME: Jamie wants to be better for Jilly's wedding when lots of relatives will be there and for Paige's return. She's returning for Jilly's wedding but not for Jamie?
- qq. Need photo of Paige, Shelly, and Braden
- rr. Book is heading toward Jilly's wedding. Jamie wants his family to see that he's improved. He believes he just needs some quiet time.
 - i. Paige is to return for Jilly's wedding. Why? No one told her of Jamie's trauma. He lies on emails. OR is she somewhere there is no email? Letters. Hallie writes them for Jamie. Hand shakes. Hasn't seen his handwriting since the fifth grade. Back together 3 months before they were both to leave, him to Afghanistan, her to xx. How long is the tour of Afghanistan?

PLOT SYNOPSIS

Hallie Hartley forgets her xx bag and returns home to get it. Looks at Braden's mother's house. Always checking to see if he's there. She sees a fancy BMW in front of her house and thinks her stepsister has a man so she sneaks into the house. When she hears the man call Shelly Hallie, she halts and listens. He tells Shelly, as Hallie, to sign and the house is hers. Hallie thinks that Shelly is trying to sell the house they own jointly, steps in. Finds out that she has inherited a house on Nantucket. Hers alone, not Shelly's, who says she was just doing Hallie a favor.

Jared very embarrassed by all this. He shows Shelly's passport. She put photo of herself in front of Hallie's and scanned it.

Hallie realizes this has been going on for weeks, and she's had enough of Shelly. The last straw. Throws some things in suitcases and leaves with Jared.

Jared tells her how embarrassed he is, and that there are complications. Jamie Taggart is living in the house. Begins to make sense. Shelly has been corresponding with a man she met in CA for 2 weeks, torn knee.

Asks what Jamie is like. Short, stocky, just a kid, really. Hallie thinks a fat 19-year-old. I bet his family has money. Yes. Mother is Cale Anderson, the writer. That's what Shelly would like, a kid with money.

Gets there and Jamie is in a cast in a wheelchair. Looks Hallie up

and down, likes the exchange very much. Comes on to her hard. Hallie bawls him out, that if he makes a pass at her, she'll kick him out. Leaves. Jamie mouths that he loves her. Hallie leans against a wall. He is the kind of man she is attracted to. (What is Braden like? He's more intellectual.)

Jared tells Jamie what happened. Jamie apologizes to Hallie. Shelly's emails to him were very friendly, got the idea she was . . . Hallie understands but still leery of him.

1. Exploring the house
 - a. Hallie sees that it has been recently repaired. New roof. She knows how much that cost. Thanks Jared. Jamie behind her shaking his head that Jared isn't to tell that he had it done.
 - b. Part of it boarded up. Jamie tells her about Tea Lady ghosts. He's been there only 1 day, doesn't know much. Father and uncle got the gym set up. Brother got the groceries. Aunt Jilly cooked. "And your mother pays for everything?"
 - c. Hallie asks about his injury. Skiing in Wolf Creek.
 - d. Her impression is that he's a spoiled rich kid. Relatives doing everything for him. Family can afford a private trainer.
 - i. Sees whiskey bottles, beer in fridge. Thinks he's a drunk.
 - e. She resents that he and his perfect family have taken over *her* house. It's as though he owns it, not her.
 - i. Likes to think of owning something that is just hers. She's had to share everything with Shelly since she was 8 years old. Shelly was younger, cuter, but "you're going to love her very much." All Hallie'd had to do was take care of her. "Hallie, could you look after Shelly while your father and I go out to dinner?" "Help Shelly clean up the mess." And her favorite: "I'm sure Shelly didn't mean to do that." Crashed computer, watch missing, erased telephone messages, whatever Shelly destroyed, Hallie was to forgive her for doing it.
 - (1) car crash and both parents killed. Shelly was so pathetic that Hallie left school to take care of her until she graduated from high school. Hell. Shelly walked out, sneering and cursing, said Hallie could have the house, she wanted nothing to do with the falling down old place.
 - (2) Hallie worked hard at 3 jobs to reroof the house, fix it up. Didn't want to leave because Braden came home now and then.
 - (3) Shelly returned. A mess. Skinny, shaky, said she'd grown up at last. Thanked Hallie for all she'd given her, just wanted to sleep. At first really nice, like a real sister, but started nagging Hallie to sell the house. But then calmed down. Started corresponding with a guy she met in CA. Torn knee, asked Hallie questions. Things were nice again, except that Shelly wouldn't get a job. Lied about going to interviews.

Shelly said man said she wasn't right for the job, but Hallie got phone call asking why Shelly hadn't shown up for the interview.

2. After Jamie returned from his second tour in Afghanistan, his whole family was tiptoeing around him, afraid to set him off. Family hired therapists to help him. They were doing everything right, but he was going more insane by the minute.
 - a. Hurt his knee. Thought he was being attacked. Heard bombs. Ran and fell. After that, even more trapped.
 - b. Shelly has known about will and house and physical therapist who inherited for weeks. Jared has been corresponding with her. No way for her to make a living on the island. Jilly offers up Jamie.
 - i. He loves the idea. To get away from home. Sees Shelly's passport photo, other photo, would love the diversion. Emails exchanged.
 - c. Mike and Kane go to look at the house to see if it's suitable for Jamie. Ghastly. 2 weeks to clean and repair it. Put equipment in the workshop.
 - i. Ken and Jared work on the construction. Fly in all materials.
3. Jamie tells Hallie what he knows of house.
 - a. Henry was a friend of Jared's great aunt. Named executor of will. Henry knew lots about you, his only living relative. Is there a box of data?
 - b. Henry had downstairs made into bedroom and bath for him as his heart wouldn't allow him to climb the stairs. Didn't go out much. Father invented something for WWII, retired young. Bought the Hartley-Bell house as his ancestor had married the woman who owned it. Only child was Henry, spent summer on Nantucket, loved it. Went to college, bummed around the world for a few years, parents died, Henry came to Nantucket and never left. Wrote scientific papers on ...? He and Addy good friends, liked to talk about ghosts and things.
 - c. Died, left house to Hallie. Broke. In the end helped by Aunt Addy. Left will, with Jared executor. Said he could clear out the house, repair it, but couldn't open the boarded room, only a descendant of Leland Hartley could do that.
 - d. Wonder what's in it? Pots of gold?
4. Jamie does weird things, all of which she attributes to his being a spoiled rich kid.
 - a. Won't remove his shirt.
 - b. Jamie has threatened his whole family not to tell her about him. He wants someone in the world NOT to look at him with pity. Let her think I'm a rich kid who tore his knee skiing. I was drunk, flirting with girls. He says Hallie sneers at him, makes nasty remarks. It's all great. Anything but pity. Anything but

- fear.*
5. **EDITH.** Betty from B&B comes over, tells them about her mother-in-law. Early stages of Alzheimers. Can't take care of her, but she wanders over into your garden. Harmless.
 - a. Betty whispers, "But she sees ghosts."
 - b. It's the first they hear of an explanation of the boarded up room.
 - c. Betty tells what Edith has told her about the 3 ghosts.
 - i. There are two ghosts in the house. "Actually, there are three ghosts. Thomas the gardener is outside, but not very many people see him." Hallie asks if they are ghosts who kill people, who hide in closets, who rattle chains, who make it their death's job to harm people. No, they are a couple ladies who serve tea and cakes to people. They love pretty clothes and if you give them gifts they wear them, use them, make cakes with them. Hallie is wide-eyed at the way she describes these ghosts, without any fear, as though it is the most normal thing in the world. Hallie buys gifts for them.
 - d. Betty is listening and recording it all. Asks that Jamie and Hallie write it all down to give to Edith's doctor. Truth is that Betty is trying to get Edith committed so she can take over her property.
 6. Hallie begins to see that things don't add up with Jamie. Not like what she thought he was. Realizes he has severe **PTSD**. He doesn't want his family to know how bad it is.
 - a. There's talk of the woman he loves, Paige Lancaster, who is in xx saving people. Wants to be recovered when she returns in time for Jilly's wedding.
 7. He doesn't have to impress Hallie. Can be as horrible as he wants to be.
 - a. Gets his shirt off. Sick-making. She can't show sympathy. Tells him she's seen worse. She needs to see it beforehand, when he doesn't know. (He's outside, hose sprayed over him?) She tears up. Sickened. Can't let him see that.
 - b. Secretly reads about PTSD. How to help and how he's feeling. Scared, angry. Relives it all. Sleep #1 requirement. She has to get his shirt off, has to loosen those muscles.
 8. Once she figures out what's wrong with him, she begins to help him.
 - a. He can show his fear to her, but doesn't want anyone else to see it.
 - b. **SCENE.** Todd shows up, jealous that Hallie is between him and his brother. He doesn't know of the mix-up. He's been undercover on a case, returned, read her emails to him, didn't like them. He thought that she was after family money. Makes an effort to see her alone, accuses her of being a gold digger. Jamie defends her, goes into a trauma, nearly kills Todd. Hallie throws her body between them. Todd then understands, thanks Hallie. She tells him that Paige is what Jamie is working toward.
 - i. Todd knows that Paige isn't interested in Jamie. Tells Hallie, but she begs Todd not to tell Jamie as it's what keeps him going.
 - ii. Todd talks to Jilly, cries to see his brother like this. What Jilly wants to know is how Hallie knew you were Todd and not Jamie. I didn't have on the leg brace. But he was sitting down when she saw him.
 9. Hallie bawls Jamie out. Make a pact that it's between the 2 of them. He doesn't have to impress her.
 - a. Gets him on the table. Hard massage. He sleeps on the table. She stays near so he doesn't fall off. At one point catches him, rolls him back. Covers him. Dark when he wakes.
 10. Hallie wants to give Jamie something to occupy his mind.
 - a. Visit from **Edith** while they're in the garden. Says hello to them. "Thomas does such a nice job on the garden, doesn't he?" They think she's daffy. Watch her, she goes to side door that is boarded up. Seems to be surprised that it's locked. Returns to them, says Juliana and Hyacinth must be busy today. Do tell them I said hello.
 - b. Jamie and Hallie start laughing.
 - c. Hallie gets idea to get Jamie to search into the story. Will keep his mind occupied. She calls Jared and asks him about it. He says to talk to Dr. Huntley. He knows everything.
 11. Hallie and Jamie meet Caleb, invite him over to tell them the story. Victoria is in NY. Caleb tells them of beautiful young women who died very young. More beautiful than any super model today. Father had a hell of a time keeping men away from them. We — I mean they — used to climb over the fence in the back.
 - a. Father didn't allow gifts of silk and busks like we gave the other girls. What are busks? Turns red. Went down the front of the corsets. We carved them. We got 'round that by giving them recipes and cooking implements. Old J. Forbes didn't notice those things. Smiling. He was a tyrant.
 - b. But one of them married my ancestor. Frowned. Leland. Married her but ran off before the wedding night. Looks at Hallie. For seven years his name meant cowardice on this island. We'd say, 'He did a Hartley' meaning that he ran away from something he should have had the courage to face. Leland came back 7 years later, said someone knocked him out and threw him in the hold of a ship. We all knew that ol' J. Forbes had done it. But by that time they were all dead, the 2 beautiful girls died the same night of a fever, and 3 years later J. Forbes died one day at the store. Thomas went not long after that. After that we felt so bad about it we tried to get Leland to stay on the island but he wouldn't. He couldn't stand the sight of any of us. He said that when he didn't show up for his wedding night, we should have searched for him, should have known something bad had happened to him.
 - c. Thomas? The gardener. Devoted to the girls. He let us in, gave our gifts to them. He wanted them to get away from their father and I think they would have if the fever hadn't taken

them.

- d. Ask about Edith. Why she comes over. “Sometimes spirits have to remain on earth and they do the best they can with the endless time they have.” What does that mean? Since they didn’t get True Love in their own lives, they now help others find it. Makes no sense. Is Edith looking for love? She’s, well, old. Caleb doesn’t know her but if she’s alive and doesn’t have love, she is looking for it.
- e. Jamie says that neither he nor Hallie have seen the ghosts. Looks like you 2 don’t need to find your True Loves. Maybe you already know who they are. They think that means Braden and Paige.

12. STORY IDEA

- a. What if Braden has longed for Shelly the way Hallie has longed for him? Thrilled when he got a chance with her. Practically ran to the jewelers to buy her a ring. “Did Shelly know you liked her?” Yes. She shoved me away a dozen times but I kept trying. She said that I belonged to someone else. Maybe Shelly is doing something good in giving Hallie Braden, bringing him to the island and planning to hand him over to Hallie. She’s always been in love with him. So Shelly makes a play for Jamie just to get him away from Hallie and Braden. But Hallie would rather have Jamie. Likes him better.
- b. What if Jamie knows about Hallie and Braden? He and Shelly have exchanged emails for weeks. Shelly pretended to be Hallie, told about being in love with some guy across the road, but he paid no attention to her. When Jamie is told that Shelly was pretending to be Hallie, he wonders about the guy. Shelly writes an apology to Jamie, just wanted to be someone important. He continues to write back to her. “Please don’t tell Hallie as she hates me too much already.” (So how does Shelly reconcile that she tried to steal a house from Hallie? She thought that Hallie would never, ever leave the Boston house because of Braden? She’s in love with him, has been all her life. Shelly thought Hallie would sell the house without even seeing it. Maybe just wanted a summer on Nantucket. Meet some guys. See the ghosts. She’s researched and read about them. Big deal in 1958.)
- c. Todd tells Hallie that Jamie isn’t in love with Paige. Never has been. Is he even mailing the letters to her?

ADDITIONS

The food made by the Tea Ladies has no calories. You can eat all of it you want and never gain any weight.

THE MESSAGE

Jamie is secretive, doesn’t let her know what’s going on, but she knows he works out early — 4 a.m. Dumbbells rearranged. He’s sweaty. He sleeps little.

One morning she wakes up early. Can see light out the back, goes out to see. His body is a mass of very deep scars. He’s in pain as he lifts. Tears in his eyes. His knee is nothing.

She hides behind tree so he doesn’t see her. Whatever happened to him, it’s no wonder he doesn’t sleep, no wonder he drinks. Great empathy for him.

Stands where he can’t see her and tries to study scars. She can see that his muscles are knotted. Can’t imagine his pain as he picks up 50 lb dumbbells.

Guesses that he doesn’t want her to see him cry.

She needs to find out what happened to him. Goes to Jilly. They moved to Toby’s house. Jilly in the greenhouse.

“I want to know what happened to him.”

“Do you mean Jamie?”

Hallie just looked at her. She knew when someone was evading her question.

Jilly took her time answering. “Could you grab that pot for me and take it outside?”

Hallie did as she was bid and set it down on the potting bench by the door. Jilly followed with two more plants that need to be repotted. Hallie stood to the side and waited. If a physical therapist needed nothing else in life, it was patience.

“I’m not supposed to tell,” Jilly said, but then she turned to Hallie and gave a great sigh.

Hallie could feel anger rising in her. “I’ve been hired to take care of a man who never sleeps. He drinks too much. His moods change by the minute. I never know whether he’s going to be laughing or raging. He keeps covered up so completely that any moment I expect him to start talking about his sister wives — and this morning I saw why. The scars on his body are horrific! But you aren’t supposed to tell me where they came from?!”

As soon as she said the words, she *knew*. And the look on Jilly’s face made her certain. “Afghanistan?” Hallie whispered.

“Yes. He was in a Humvee with 3 others and they ran over a road bomb. One man lost both legs, two others were killed, and Jamie was torn up by shrapnel. He asks why he survived.”

Hallie leaned back against the greenhouse. “Survivor’s guilt and PTSD?”

“Yes,” Jilly said. “All of it.”

“His knee?”

“His brother got him to go skiing but a tree fell and the echo sounded like a gunshot and Jamie went down.” She looked at Hallie and there was great sorrow in Jilly’s eyes. “Everything we could think of to do has been done. Therapists, both private and group. The whole family cares so much and even the children have been warned to be quiet around Uncle Jamie.” Jilly sighed. “He used to be so easy-going. We were all shocked when he said he was going to become a soldier. He was always a laughing, happy boy and now . . .” She turned away for a moment to hide the tears in her eyes. “Anyway, his dad thought that getting Jamie away from the family and putting him under the care

of a pretty girl who didn't feel sorry for him might help more than the family tiptoeing around him did."

"But I haven't helped," Hallie said. "I thought he was a rich playboy, spoiled and —"

"But you *have* helped," Jilly said. "I've seen Jamie smile and he hasn't done that since he returned. Please, please don't stop yelling at him. It seems to make him so *very* happy."

The two women looked at each other, then burst into laughter at the absurdity of Jilly's words.

"I promise I won't stop giving him a hard time," Hallie said. "Just wait until you see what I do in order to get his clothes off."

She tells him his reluctance to disrobe means he thinks she's interested in him sexually.

Says he's not her type. He's only business to him, nothing else.

Rips off old T-shirt, hanging on arm. Waits for her to be sickened. Glad she'd seen him before or the horror — worse, the sympathy — would show on her face.

Stood there, his face defiant, as though he was preparing himself for her revulsion.

Instead, she put her hand on his chest at a deep, wide scar across his right pec. She could see the skin graft. Ran her hand down his stomach. There were 3 long, narrow scars there that looked as though they'd been stitched together.

He stood still, only his eyes moving as he watched her.

The T-shirt was hanging by a sleeve over his right arm. She slid it down, then ran her hand over the scar on his right deltoid. More skin grafting. He'd managed to build the muscle around the scar and she couldn't imagine the pain that must have caused him.

She walked around him to look at his back. The scars there weren't as deep but there were hundreds of them. He looked as though he'd been whipped with a steel tipped cat-of-nine-tails.

She ran both hands over his back, feeling the ridges and indentations. Worse, she could feel the knots of muscle underneath and around the scars. No wonder he drank and no wonder he couldn't sleep. Every muscle he had was drawn into a hard lump the consistency of concrete.

She went back to the front of him. "On the table."

"No," he said and took a step toward the house.

"On the table *now*," she ordered. "Face down, soldier!"

For a moment he blinked at her, then he gave a tiny, one-sided grin. "Yes, ma'am."

It wasn't easy for him to get onto the tall massage table. Between the brace on his leg and the injured muscles of his upper body, he struggled, but Hallie didn't help him. Instead, she got a sheet from inside the wall cabinet and spread it over his lower half.

Hard pillow under damaged knee. Has on only loose sweat pants.

"Lift up." (Threatens to cut them off.)

Used her elbow on lumps and knots. Gouging at him. Must be hurting him but she could feel the muscles releasing. Grunts from him but never complained. Wanted to yell at him to stop holding it in, but she didn't.

Massages leg through bandage.

Head, feet, around every scar. Glutes. (Hold a lot of tension there.)

"Turn over." She could tell it was easier for him. Makes her feel good. Achieving something.

Face, neck, working downward. Unfastens brace. Works on leg and knee. Scar on quad.

"Don't move."

"I don't think I can."

He falls asleep. She covers him with blankets. Warm. She stays close to him. Hallie afraid he'll fall off the table. Sits close. Exhausted. Took 3 hours.

Wakes her with groans. Bad dream. Get at his head. Massages. Whispers that he's safe. He kisses her hand. Sleeps for hours.

He wakes to see her in chair, head on her chest. Sleeping. Best he's felt since the bomb.

"From now on, you work out when I'm with you. No more cave man where you delight in seeing how much pain you can cause yourself. I don't need to have to deal with muscles detached from the bone. You understand me?"

"So I'm to get you out of bed at 4 a.m.?"

"If you're not hiding from me, you don't need to get up that early. You could, you know, *sleep!*"

"Discipline, Hartley. Discipline." Smacks her on the shoulder.

CONFLICT is her being professional and him not attaching to anyone.

Can anyone love me?

What about Todd? "Your brother is here." "Which one?"

Think of weddings. Jilly's. Shelly's.

Jamie and Paige planned it. A tour, but Jamie came home early. Paige extended her time in South America. She wouldn't be someone who couldn't handle bad. Maybe no one told Paige he was hurt. In fact, he lied to her. He didn't want her to see him as less than a man. Wants a wife, not a nurse.

Photo of her. She looks like Shelly. "Looks like my stepsister."

Call each other Hartley and Taggart.

"Come on, Hartley, there must be some man in your life."

The guy across the road. (Wine involved.) Braden.

IDEA: he gets her in shape. She's a bit dumpy. Works out all summer under his tutelage.

Looks: Shelly tall and thin, model figure. Hallie shorter, sort of dumpy.
No teaching of yoga! Needs sedentary job, behind a computer. Sits all day. He'll do anything she wants if she'll do it with him.

What jobs does she have outside of school? Sits at a desk all day. Works for a lovable, but OCD professor. Files, etc. He hates computers. She does everything he can think up.

AUNT UNICA — her mother's younger sister. Never married. No children. Manages an underwear company. Long term affair with her boss. She couldn't stand my stepmother. Sends Hallie boxes of underwear. SCENE: modeling undies for Jamie.

FOOD — there's a food Jamie likes. Also something that Hallie likes. Story to each food. Cale cooked only to learn how to do something, pretty much always for her books. The family's favorite was about a chef, so she pushed the family cook aside and learned how to do what she wrote about. Pastry chef? Things from Unique Sweets. Puff pastry. For weeks at 4 each day, ½ a doz relatives would show up and eat these divine things my mother had cooked.

Hallie's grandmother cooked. Healthy. Rustic desserts. Baked hand pies. SCENE: come in and there's a tea prepared for them. If it just appears, too magic. Say it all in front of Edith, so they think she did it. Neither Jamie or Hallie can cook. They lose weight, can't understand why. Are ravenous.

WEDDING — What the hell do I do for a wedding? Go Nantucket shopping. Go for Jilly's wedding dress.

Jamie panics when she's gone. Bawls her out; she gives it back to him. Puts her fists up like she's going to fight him. Heart pounding. He collapses in a chair, she leaves. Really scared.

Everyone gave him sympathy — pity even — tiptoed around him. Therapists, physicians. Everyone terrified of suicide. Even his brother Todd wary of him.

Humvee he was driving ran over a bomb in the street. 4 men in there (3 and 1 woman?) 2 killed, one lost both legs. Jamie cut badly but survived.

Survivor's guilt. Jilly tells story or does Jamie?

He wants to be treated normally, but we can't. We love him too much. Empathy. We look at him and imagine what he went through. We don't see Jamie, we see a soldier, feel what he did. Cale is the worst. She sleeps outside his door. Kane has to carry her to bed.

JILLY PREGNANT

Symptoms that Hallie recognizes. Tells Jamie to keep her busy while she goes to the pharmacy. Gets pregnancy test. Hurries back.

Hands bag to Jilly. I assume you know how this works.

This is ridiculous. At my age? It's not possible. Hallie just looked at her and Jilly got up and went to the bathroom. Hallie hands her her watch.

Jamie: What on earth was that all about?

We'll know in approx 4 minutes.

Jilly comes out. Pale face.

Aunt Jilly, are you all right? Get her a shot of whiskey.

Hallie and Jilly look at each other. You want whiskey?

No. I can't have any. Voice a whisper.

Starts crying. I have to go. Ken . . . Oh heavens! Ken! I have to go. Hallie rushes out the door.

Your aunt is going to have a baby.

I bet it's Taggart twins.

JAMIE'S FAMILY

Big. Most of my dad's relatives live in Co, but we had a duplex apartment in NY. We lived on the bottom floor and upstairs was a big room that opened to a roof garden. All that was my mom's office.

Oh right. The author, Cale Anderson. Any brothers or sisters?

Yes. 4 bothers, one sister.

Big family.

Not really. There was a large age gap between kids. After we 4 older brothers left for college, my mom had 2 more. They're xx (age) now. They're to be in Aunt Jilly's wedding.

Jared feels bad about what he'd almost done. If Hallie hadn't returned when she did, it was possible he wouldn't have found out about the error until the house was sold. Or was the devious Shelly trying to get her hands on young Jamie?

Jared was looking at her. She wasn't flamboyantly pretty like Shelly was. Didn't have that combination of helplessness and sex appeal that Shelly did. The way she looked at a man made him think of bed and long, hot afternoons.

When Shelly was around it was hard to see anything else. Scenery and other people seemed to disappear. But now, away from her, Jared looked at Hallie and realized that she was a very attractive young woman. Dark chestnut hair, dark brown eyes. Maybe a little round in places, but not too bad.

What was most interesting about her was a look of quiet strength in her eyes. What must it have been like to grow up with a stepsister who would do something as despicable — as illegal — as Shelly had done? "Shelly, *this* time I am *not* going to forgive you," Hallie had said, and he wondered what else her stepsister had done.

Unless he was way off in his assessment, there was steel inside this girl. He wanted her to meet his wife, Alix. They might like each other. With both Lexie and Toby gone, Alix needed some friends on the island.

Does Shelly keep emailing Jamie?

Shelly and Ruby both tall, thin, never gain weight. Live on diet of junk food. Boobs — both flat chested. Ruby had hers done, was going to give them to Shelly as a grad gift. When Shelly returned from CA, had

them. Like Victoria's Secret model. Not that pretty, doesn't work out like those girls do, but could have been — as she liked to tell me.

It's Hallie's decision to work out with him. Joins him in the gym. Done enough that she knows them in theory. OR used to be in shape but didn't have time. School. Jobs. Plus household of grocery, cooking, cleaning.

Jamie asks questions about her life. She never volunteers. Parted in less than the best.

CURIOUS. Jamie wants to know about her as he wrote to her for months. About what?

Shelly wrote she was jealous of her young sister as she was pretty and talented. She — as Hallie — was concerned about her weight. Shelly says her sister is jealous of her. She has serious weight problem.

WHAT SHELLY TOLD ABOUT HALLIE

1. Serious weight problem. Hard to get along with
2. What if Shelly told Jamie Hallie is obsessed with Braden?
3. Shelly said she had to take care of Hallie after their parents died. Never even hints that they aren't full sisters and share parents.
4. Shelly younger, bullied by Hallie. "I love her in spite of all she did to me."
5. Hallie is a very, very needy person. Twists things. She was desperate to get away, got to CA to try her hand at acting. Had some good contacts there. Stayed, things going well for her, had a chance, but then Hallie fell apart and Shelly had to return to nurse her back to health. Tried to help her get over her obsession of Braden.
6. Shelly's story is of great sacrifice to help her bully of a sister. Proof: what proof can she show that she's the one who gave and did? Financial records.

Jamie hears both sides and makes up his own mind. Someone knows. Who? Henry has records? OR that Shelly would try to steal the house, fake her passport was enough for him. Make it short as to what Shelly said. It's hard for an outsider to see the truth.

Thomas. Girls only appear to people who need to find their True Love. But what about Thomas?

Idea: she thinks Jamie has fallen for Shelly.

In car with Jared: You don't know how many emails they exchanged, do you?

Or how friendly they got?

I have no idea.

I think they . . . got friendly.

Shelly presented herself as Hallie, told things about herself, what she liked, where she went, etc. but sent photo of herself.

I don't know what they wrote but I know photos were exchanged.

Great. Rich kid expecting 5'9" skinny blonde.

Jared looks at her. If it helps any, I like the look of you better.

Yeah. Are you *sure* you're married?

Is Jamie there when she sees the house? I want her to see him first. Standing

on crutches, in garden, talking to Jilly? Talking to Thomas? Doing what?

If young Jamie gives you any trouble, let me know and I'll take care of him.

I'm sure I'll be fine.

Look, I feel really bad about what happened with your stepsister. If you hadn't come back early, I don't like to think what would have happened — and it would have been my fault. I owe you. Big time. So take advantage of it. You ever want a house designed, I'll do it for free. Thank you.

Where is Jamie? She sees him, is *very* attracted to him. Hots for him, then he sees his bedroom, bulletin board of photos of Shelly — in a bikini. She had pub photos done in CA and there they were.

Outside talking to Edith. Leaning over her on crutches. Smiling. Older than represented. Big all muscle. Leans about wall, heart fluttering. Pre lust. Then goes downstairs, sees his bedroom and bulletin board of Shelly — like shrine to her.

Hallie is shorter, 20 lbs overweight, brown hair and eyes. Not dazzler like Shelly is. Happened since she was 11. If a boy liked her, as soon as he saw Shelly, Hallie faded in his mind. Like she disappeared. Now she dreaded the coming meeting. He was going to be disappointed. I thought you were taller, blonder, thinner. "Shelly's body; my brain."

How many times had she been told that she had a great personality?

I had dreaming in Toby book. Could I have it in this one? What about royal wedding on TV?

Royal wedding. Cale, Kane, Samantha, Mike guests at the wedding. Jilly was invited but she didn't want to fly.

They watch it. Scene: Jamie tells her Graydon is his cousin. She doesn't believe him. Put in special satellite to see the wedding. Hallie is lying — she knows Jamie is related.

Hallie is too good, too pure. Too worried about Shelly and her beauty. Did she get her back? How?

"I succeeded." I've done well.

For 2 years while she was in high school I was quiet. Shelly was angry at our parents' deaths, that I had rule over her. I told her no, she couldn't go to parties where I knew there would be drinking. No, to driving my car before she had a license even if it was "just this once." To her, I was a monster.

I couldn't win. If I didn't let her go, she screamed that she hated me. I couldn't handle the anger so I let her go. She came home drunk, had a bad time with a couple of boys and according to her, it was all my

fault for letting her go to a party like that.

She left in a storm of anger, telling me how she was going to Hollywood and become a big star and wasn't going to share a penny of her success with me.

First time since she was 11 that she'd had 2 nights in a row without Shelly's drama — and her mother was just as bad. They used to go into crying fits over the deaths of a character on TV.

Shelly grieved for her mother and father. What about you? I grieved when my grandparents moved to Florida. I didn't see my father as much after he married Ruby and brought Shelly home. He wasn't home very often and when he was — shrug — The steps took his time.

Shelly had a lot of lessons, trying to find out what she's good at. Art, music, dance, acting. No talent that I ever saw. Just great at drama.

Next scene: Hallie sees garden, beautiful old tree and bench. Brass plaque Juliana Hartley and Hyacinth Bell. Hartley-Bell Garden. By the time she gets to the gym, she is calmer. Took some of the anger out of her.

SEA QUEEN

idea: recreate the wedding of Leland and Juliana

STORY ELEMENTS: Hallie's frustration at Jamie. He won't removed his clothing for her to give him a massage.

Jilly knows why but no one else does. Maybe Ken does.

Need other things about Jamie that bug her

1. Won't go off the property. Had to be sedated to get from Maine to there. He just wants to feel SAFE.

(Is it too much of a cliché that he leaves to rescue Hallie?) Someone makes it up. One of the ghosts? Leland or Thomas. Later sees photo of Leland — Hallie's ancestors that's who told him.

I still see his young cousins tumbling over him. Wake Jamie up, he reacts as a soldier. Hallie makes a leap on top of him to protect the kids.

First scene are the two of them together. He has to get back into her good graces.

SCARS – all over his back, sides, chest, down the left side of his body. Deep indentations, muscles cut. Like someone ran a lawn mower over his body. SOLDIER – does she know how he got it? Doesn't want her feeling sorry for him.

GROCERIES. Jamie says: You get them, I'll cook and clean up. He hides that he doesn't want to leave.

How long has he been there? One day. Just got there yesterday. Met Edith. Hasn't really explored.

"What can I say? You're an extraordinary attractive young woman. It

caught me off guard."

More likely that he's shocked that he didn't get Shelly

Need to sort out what went on between him and Shelly. She told him everything about Hallie exactly. She *is* Hallie. Emails — where went to school.

Jamie pissed that Shelly tried to steal the house. If you put this on the market, considering where it's located and with this much land, it would go for about 2 mil.

That's not possible. And if someone bought it, what would they do with it?

Gut it, fill up the land with lots of house.

FIRST CONVERSATION

apologies for his behavior. Look at place.

Jared returns. Need things sorted out then. Where to live, how long they'll do it.

SCENE: early on, she tells him to take off his clothes and he won't do it. One shoulder higher than the other. Needs to work on his hips. Crutches throw a body off balance. I, uh, I . . . I don't like to be touched. One of those something-something phobias.

HAPHEPHOBIA — don't like to be touched

GYMNOPHOBIA — being nude

SOCIOPHOBIA — fear of people or social situations.

I have to work on your damaged knee.

Okay. Right leg only. I'll see if I can bear it. (No scars on that leg all the way up to his hip.

TO JARED. He's an unusual man. It's going to be a challenge to work on him.

HAPPENINGS. Meet Edith. Hear of ghosts. Does Jamie know of them? Jared certainly does. Ask Caleb. He knows everything.

B&B next door. Edith's son runs it. I like Jamie and Hallie to find out things together. Jamie just met Edith that morning.

Ah. Jamie had to be drugged to get him there. His father, uncle and brother brought him and left him. He slept all afternoon.

OR — today. Brought him last night and he slept until noon. Took him a while to wake up, went out to see the gym, was returning and met Edith. She was leaving, checking on the place.

TREE. Leland's tree. Planted it in memory of his wife. Do you know anything about that?

He promises no passes made at her.

If he knows nothing, what DID he and Shelly talk of? HER.

Hallie's guess that Shelly didn't read the documents about ancestry. And she asked me about me, then typed it to you.

TABLE — she tells him to get undressed, get on the table and put sheet over him. Can leave on underpants if that bothers you. She leaves. Returns and he is lying on table, clothed waist up, waist down,

bare, but only on one side. Right leg exposed up to his hip, but left leg covered by his sweat pants.

NANTUCKET 1795– name changed from Sherburne to Town of Nantucket
first part of book of Hallie and Jamie bonding. Meet Jilly. Edith – a main character. She sees what's going on.

Jilly's wedding is well underway. Hallie gives her massages. She knows she's pregnant, so does Ken, but hasn't told her family. Jilly bursts into tears, Hallie takes her to studio. Massage, TLC. Jilly is scared of being older and having baby.

Hallie
Jamie
Jilly and Ken
Edith

Edith sees something that makes her know something is wrong with Jamie. Makes Jilly tell her. "I want to know what's going on with your nephew." "It's a secret, not supposed to tell anyone." Reader isn't told.

WHEN does the wedding take place? A few weeks? 3 weeks. Need time to get to know Jamie and Hallie.

What about ghosts? Edith sees them. Visits them. I still like the idea that they are there. Appear only to people who haven't yet met their true love.

Move to Summer Hill — Jamie and Hallie. Edith? She goes into partnership with them? Son and daughter-in-law consider her a nuisance, want to get rid of her. But she owns the place.

TEA LADIES — eliminate the father. The girls died together before Leland returned. Married or just engaged? Father deeply depressed, never the same. Thomas took care of garden.

They weren't murdered. Father tried to protect them. Men climbing over fence to them. Very young, very beautiful. Engaged before Leland went away on 3 year trip.

Married as ship was leaving. He was afraid she'd find someone else.

Some way they had no wedding night. Disaster on the day of wedding.

When everything cleared, girls dead.

Caleb knew them. He visits Summer Hill

Do I need the Tea Ladies? The house has locked rooms and there's the girly decorating. The first 2 chapters set it all up.

Edith meets the ladies. They find man for her. If that happens, can I use her in Summer Hill?

What if all 4 go? Need people unattached to Nantucket. Need some things to happen at the inn that Jamie solves. He's good at it. Maybe the 4 of them fit in, each does something necessary.

11 rooms. 10 of them are Montgomery-Taggart. One was made 6 months before. Man CEO of big corporation. Planned to retire then go find Edith. Made the reservation at her inn. Had a home improvement store. Started with his dad's store, built it up. 2 sons now run it.

Need name of B&B in Summer Hill.

B&B

Edith always interfering in inn. Her son and daughter-in-law want to run it by themselves. Man tells her to give it up. They don't need her, but Jamie and Hallie do need her.

Jobs: cook, manager, accounting, maintenance, cleaning/laundry
Hallie does physical stuff, but so does Jamie. Other talents. Can she do construction maintenance? Jobs at B&B.

Jamie is a Taggart and he knows numbers, accounting.

Man maintains place — gardens

Edith can see Tea Ladies, does cooking, teas.

Hallie has a physical therapy office in the back. Takes people in town and B&B guests.

Need both Hallie and Jamie to be good hosts. Prove it.

Hallie never had a big, boisterous family. Shelly was the center of everything. "Help Shelly" was the catchphrase in her house. Hallie sees families that aren't like hers.

IDEA: no tea ladies to deal with. The story is enough with a million Taggerts and Montgomerys. Open locked rooms. Change decorating. See if Hartley-Bell mentioned it other books, 1 & 2. Can change #2.

What about her relation to Leland? Leave it alone. Do nothing. That's it. She is a Hartley and Henry was a Bell.

No ghosts in the book. Victoria is Jilly's MOH? But Jilly has sisters. Kids in Sweet Lair.

TOBY'S WEDDING ON TV

Some of the family goes to it. Special satellite set up to see the wedding.

They are gathering early to be together to see that. IDEA. Hallie goes over with Edith, lots of laughter, fun. Jamie arrives and everyone gets quiet. Treats him like an invalid or a crazy person.

Has she seen the scars yet? She thought it was from an accident. Doesn't realize he's a soldier.

- Hallie meets them. Loves them.
 - Jamie won't go to the B&B
 - She nags him to go. He does.
 - Everyone gets quiet. Possible: someone drops something, scares him, he ducks down.
 - Hallie realizes everything. PTSD
 - Jamie mumbles that he was caught off guard. So quiet, then the loud noise
 - TURNING POINT:** Jamie pulls dishes out and breaks them. Crying. OR: Hallie starts breaking things. Turns on music. Loud. Yelling. Family comes over to see if he's all right. Run to noise. See/hear. Jamie and Hallie laughing and dancing. Kids jump on Uncle Jamie.
- IT'S NOT OVER BUT IT'S A BEGINNING

Shelly shows up with Braden. They are engaged. She wants to trade him for a house. If she can get them together in a compromising situation, Hallie will feel so bad that she'll give Shelly the second house. It's worth about 2 million.

Jamie sees something that makes him think Shelly cares nothing for Braden — but he has been in love with her for years. Or thinks he has.

What if . . . Shelly arranged for Braden and Hallie to be found in bed together. Throws a fit, flings himself onto Jamie. He takes her out.

He sees what Shelly has done. Knows it. "You think I believed you wanted *him over me*?" Cries.

PTSD not cured, but they let the family think so. Jamie freaks another time, but only Hallie sees him. "Let's get you out of here." News on TV? Video game?

Some accident or emergency and Jamie saves whomever. Braden? Stops bleeding.

IDEA: Jamie is a doctor. Furious that she wasn't told. Or EMT. "Get Jamie." Medical officer in the army. What rank?

SECTIONS

- getting to know each other
- family arrives for Jilly's wedding
- wedding
- Toby's wedding.

HALLIE'S FAMILY DYNAMIC

Don't worry about the second half. Hallie needs to see a different family than the one she grew up in. She begins to truly *see* how one-sided her family was.

Mother died; father copped out. Turned her over to Mother's parents while he went on the road. But it was all right because grandparents were good.

Then Ruby and Shelly came into the picture and everything changed. For a couple of years it was a war zone. Ruby versus Grandmother. Older people lost. Gave up when Ruby had their garden bulldozed flat. Gone in minutes. Nearly bankrupted dad putting in a pool.

Dad ran away from turmoil. Chicken. Said he needed to travel to make more money. But could have taken a desk job.

Hole dug for pool but never put in. No money. Grew weeds. Hallie filled it up.

2 years after marriage, grandparents moved to FL. Wanted Hallie to go with them but Dad said no. Would have agreed, but Ruby said Shelly needed her big sister. Dad still hot for Ruby so he said no. Hallie felt like one of those kids who was being used for body parts. "I had to stay to 'help Shelly.'" It's what she's done since she was 11.

Is running a B&B enough for a Taggart? Jamie to go back to medical school to become a doctor? Can a hero run a B&B? Todd will run the sheriff's department. His wife's father is a doctor.

What if Jamie got his degree, then went to war? 30 years old. Like the guy on Grey's Anatomy.

"You're a doctor?!" Furious. How many other secrets do you have?" "Soldier with PTSD. Doctor. That's about it. Can't think of anything else. Except that I love you. But that's not a secret. Everybody knows that."

JAMIE'S PAST

If Jamie is a doctor, there need to be some hints in the story. He was with men in a Humvee and ran over a bomb. They were killed. Jamie was hurt badly. A year's recovery. Went home, everyone tiptoed around him. Todd got him to go skiing, tore his knee. Drugged him and took him to Nantucket. Get him away from family, put him with a pretty girl physical therapist.

If Jamie is a doctor, he's not involved in a B&B. I want him to help PTSD guys. But a doctor could do that. How can he help without training? Experience. Listen. Sometimes listening is enough. Hallie takes care of their bodies and Jamie listens to them. It's a retreat. They can tell Jamie things no one else can understand.

Some of the guys are dangerous.

Doctor or not?

I like that he's a doctor. Psychiatrist? Yuck, no!

Book #1. Todd's twin brother is in partnership with Stacy's donor father?

B&B in Summer Hill

It makes more sense that Edith and retired man take it over. They live in inn. House is for Jamie and Hallie. They help at inn. Relieve each other so they have time off.

They are like parents to Hallie even though they are older.

Edith — one son with an aggressive wife, pushes Edith out

Man — 2 sons who run his company. No time for their own children, much less an old father.

Hallie has no one. They adopt her.

Man is in the Nantucket B&B the whole time. Arrives with the Taggerts for the wedding.

Edith has to figure out — or coerce Jilly into telling *before* the wedding guests arrive. Sends son and daughter-in-law away. Threatens to put it on the market if they don't leave.

What if she doesn't know the man? Not old flame. He sees what she's doing. 2 romances in one.

Doctor — blond guy who has a dozen children, each with a different mother

IDEA: maybe a younger couple is needed to help run the inn. Kit finds

someone to help — a future hero or heroine

EDITH

meet Edith first. Her husband and she were a team. What did he do? Business. She ran the house. 2 children. Back in the day when men and women were divided. I did female things and he did male things. He worked outside the home and brought home a paycheck. I took care of the house and the children. He could have been part of the mafia for all I know. Was he? Jamie: Give Hallie someone else to take care of besides me.

Locked doors.

BETTY: You didn't realize that she comes here to talk to the ghosts who live in your house?

Someone tells them to call Caleb.

WEDDING

Jilly faints, Hallie goes after her, helps her to a bench. Jamie has disappeared. He's panicked.

Jilly: I'm fine. See to Jamie

Jamie? But you're the one who fainted.

Please. Find him. Make sure he's all right.

Breathing heavily. Heart pounding. Just like at night except he's awake. Doesn't have time for words. I have to see about your aunt. Oh hell. I don't have time to talk. Kisses him. Calms. Runs back to Jilly.

Jilly: should we call an ambulance for Jamie?

No, he's fine.

Question look.

I have an infallible way of calming him down. I use it on his nightmares. Sleeping kisses. A couple of good, strong, mouth on mouth beauties and he calms right down.

Jilly laughs. No one tried that. Of course there was no one who really *could* try that.

(Dawn on Hallie that he has PTSD?) From what? An accident? Drunk driving? Killed his fellow fraternity brothers in a car accident because he was texting? Drunk? No he'd be in jail.

Hallie gets involved in wedding because Jilly says — but lies — that she doesn't want her family to know she is preggers. They wouldn't want her to work.

Jamie asks what she's up to.

There's a lost look in her eyes, as though she doesn't quite belong to . . . well, to anyone.

Jamie: what do you know about her?

Jilly: I want to make her feel that she belongs

Jamie says she is rushing him, pushing him into something he isn't ready for.

Jilly says she isn't. if it doesn't work out between you 2, you have an awful

lot of available cousins. Adam —

A Montgomery?! You couldn't do that to her.

She might like the charm of a Montgomery. Dinners by candlelight. Picnics under a full moon. Gifts of roses and chocolate.

What does a Taggart give?