

The first act begins with the sisters arriving at their mother's house. Eleanor is already there, as she still lives there, hesitantly awaiting what will soon happen. Annie is the first to arrive. It's just barely dawn. She ducks into the house out of the rain and sees Eleanor sitting in a chair looking out the window. They greet each other and have a brief conversation about their mother's current condition. Feeling of sorrow and melancholia. Sofia is walking down the street with her husband, approaching the house. They speak for a moment in preparation for the impending death of Sofia's mother as they walk. He comforts her. As they reach the steps of the house, a cab pulls up and a disheveled Emilia crawls out. She looks as though she had been partying all night. Emilia and Sofia greet each other. There's clear tension as neither know how to handle this occasion. Sofia and her husband begin to walk into the house and realize Emilia has stopped. She is still at the sidewalk, looking up at the house with apprehension. Sofia tells Emilia that they have to go inside, there is not avoiding the situation. After a moment Emilia follows. They walk into the house and the chair where Eleanor was sitting is now empty. The girls tiptoe through the house as if they do not want to disturb anything. They make their way into the kitchen and find Eleanor and Annie sitting at the table. The sisters greet each other and sit at the table. They begin to speak about their mother's condition and Eleanor makes a snappy comment to Emilia about her absence in their mother's illness. Annie suggests Eleanor go rest. Eleanor agrees and leaves the room. Emilia, Annie and Sofia remain at the table and discuss how to handle the situation. They discuss Eleanor and how to possibly make it through their mother's death. After a moment of sitting in silence, Annie's husband walks in with their two young children. They all greet each other. He asks how their mother is doing. Silently, Annie gestures not well.

Eleanor is woken up by her sisters. They inform her that their mother has declined and will pass away shortly. They all walk down the hallway and into their mother's room. She is in bed, unconscious. The four gather around the bed. They are all unaware of what to do next. The nurse tells them to get her if they need anything and she steps out of the room. The sisters sit by their mother in silence. They look at each other but no one has an answer. They all cry and deal in their own ways. Emilia can hardly look up. She is fidgety and uncomfortable. Annie looks like a young frightened girl. Sofia looks heartbroken, but strong. Eleanor is looks at their mother as though she is trying to memorize her. After a few moments of the four sitting around their mother, Sofia speaks and tells their mother that they're all there. They all assure her she can go.

The girls are seen sitting in a chapel. This is their mother's funeral. They sit together and it is clear how they are all trying to process what is happening in their own ways. The funeral recessional is shown. There are many people in their mother's house, all sharing memories. It is busy and chaotic. Emilia is talking with an older couple when she sees Eleanor sneak out the back door onto the patio. Emilia excuses herself and

follows. She keeps a distance and watches as Eleanor breaks down for the first time. Emilia doesn't know what to do and she can not bring herself to approach Eleanor. She watches on. Her heart breaks for her sister but she does not know how to express it. Later that night, Annie and Sofia are seen trying to put all of the baked dishes into the fridge like a puzzle. Eleanor is washing dishes. Emilia approaches her and begins to say something about earlier that day but backs out.

The next morning, the doorbell rings. Everyone is sitting eating breakfast. It's quiet and solemn. Sofia informs them that the lawyer is there. The four sisters enter a different room with the lawyer, away from the rest of the family. He informs them of their mother's arrangements as they were aware of many of them. But then he tells them that their mother had actually left them something else that they were unaware of. He pulls out four letters. One for each of them. They are all from their mother to each individual sister. He informs them to read the letters and that once the four had spoken, then he would meet with them again. The lawyer refuses to say anymore and insists they read the letters. He leaves and the girls are hesitant as to what to do. Annie rips open her envelope first. Each sister is seen on her own, alone, as she reads her letter. They are all separated throughout the house. They read and digest the letters. They meet back together once they have all processed the situation and have realized what is being asked of them. They begin to discuss what the letters said. They understand that their mother wants them to go on a journey together. Some are for the idea. Some are against it. They discuss and decide to meet with the lawyer again to fully hear out the idea. The next day they meet with the lawyer together and he tells them of the plan their mother made for them. He explains everything. Annie is still hesitant, however. That evening, Annie is talking with her husband and shares her concerns for going on the trip. He talks with her and advises her to go with her sisters on the trip their mother had planned. Annie finally reluctantly decides to agree to the journey. The four girls meet back together and Annie tells them that she will go on the trip.