Chapter 15 Meanwhile , across town , Paisley was wrapping up her morning in the studio , handling a few last-minute tasks .

As lunchtime rolled around , her phone buzzed with a message from Emery inviting her to lunch .

Checking the time

Paisley decided to leave the remaining work to Lucy and drove over to meet her friend .

Emery , a renowned gown designer with her boutique in Harrowfells exclusive shopping mall , had become one of Paisley's closest friends .

The store was the epitome of elegance , frequented by the city's elite .

The gowns Emery designed were works of art , each piece a testament to her extraordinary skill .

By the time Paisley arrived , the boutique was bustling with clients .

Wanting to avoid interrupting her friends work , Paisley paused at the entrance and quickly sent her a text .

Emery's response came almost instantly Babe .

Im with a VIP right now .

Wait for me in the lounge ! Before Paisley could even reply , a second message popped up . (Oh , and by the way , the gown I made for you is ready .

Its so beautiful that Ive displayed it in the main area .

Go take a look when you can ! more stunning than Paisley smiled softly , her heart warming at the thought Over the years ,

Emery had crafted countless gowns for her , each one mirror the last Emery's boutique was expansive .

An entire section of the store was dedicated to showcasing her most exquisite creations , a gallery of her best work each given an embodiment of craftsmanship and luxury , At the very heart of the room stood Paisley's gown , draped perfectly on a display mannequin .

Its swing fabric catching the light like liquid silk .

It was a masterpiece , designed with an understated elegance that whispered of quiet luxury and high society .

Before it stood a mother and daughter .

The mother , her tone laced with a mix of pride and possessiveness , said :

My daughter really loves this gown .

I dont care what it costs , Ill buy it .

The familiar voice was unmistakable .

It made Paisleys pulse quicken .

She froze , her eyes narrowing her lips curling into a subtle , knowing smile .

Sorry , maam , this gown is awaiton creation by Ms.

Collins for another client .

Im afraid we cant sell it , the receptionist explained politely , her voice calm , though her eyes were tiredly .

She gestured toward the other displays with a practiced smile , adding , Perhaps youd like to browse our ready-to-wear collection instead ? The mother , Christina , scoffed , and .

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Her voice dripped with superiority , her gaze sweeping arrogantly over the room .

Do you know who my daughter is ? These gown wont do for her .

Youre wasting my time .

The receptionist , ever composed , had dealt with this kind of situation many times before and met Christinas condescending glare with a calm smile .

If the ready made gowns arent to your liking , I can arrange an appointment with one of our designers .

We can schedule a custom creation for you ! Can you get us .

Ms.

Collins ? Brittany asked , her voice laced with both admiration and expectation .

store were talented , none Most customers who came to this boutique were here for one reason Emery Collins .

While other designers in the st carried the prestige or allure of Emerys name .

The receptionist smiled apologetically .

Certainly , Ms.

Collins is available , but her schedule is booked solid .

Shes fully booked until October next Christinas lips twisted into a disdainful sneer .

A year ! Just to ask! to make one gown ? Brittany was also not happy about the wait .

She had gone only for the gown in the display case , clearly entranced by its beauty .

Mum , I dont want to wait .

I want this one , she insisted , her voice on .

Christina , seeing her daughters resolve , nodded with nddy .

Wait take it .

Name your price .

gown is not for sale , maam The receptionists smile remained , but it tightened with a polite refusal .

Tm afraid this go Christina , now visibly irritated , leaned forward , her tone now sharper .

Who does this gown belong to Contact her .

Find out what she paid for it .

If you double , just to have it Paisley could no longer contain the leather laugh thas escaped her lips .

I never thought id see the day when my biological mother would be so ! (Chapter 15 Back then , she wouldnt even buy me any decent clothes for school .

But of course , it all makes sense .

Christina wouldnt let Brittany ? The chys the limit. spend a dime on me , but Christina , growing more impatient by the second , urged , Thurry up .

Go call her .

Wait take it today .

Name your price .

Whatever it is , Ill pay it A few months ago , Christina wouldnt have dared to speak like this .

But things were di , erent now .

In her mind , the Sullivan family now stood under the prestigious shadow of Vanderbilt Group , with Dominick the heir to the Vanderbilt fortune , rmly backing Brittany On top of that, Brittany was about to star as the female lead in a blockbuster project , ensuring her future social and nancial worth would skyrocket .

Christinas con device , fueled by these prospects , was unshakable .

The receptionist was visibly caught in a dilemma , unsure of how to handle the situation .

She started to turn , perhaps to consult Emery , when a familiar voice cut through the air , calm and authoritative .

No need to contact anyone .

Im right here .