

## Chapter 1983 Mom Was Jealous

Brandon respected Janet's opinion. He offered a gentle pat on her head. "You've matured a lot," he said with a touch of pride.

A knock on the door interrupted them. "Mr. and Mrs. Larson, Dinner is served," came a servant's voice.

Janet and Brandon walked downstairs hand-in-hand, only to find Hannah and Johanna already seated at the table.

Johanna's eyes widened at the sight of Janet's pale face. "What's wrong, dear? You look exhausted."

Janet forced a smile, shaking her head. "It's nothing, really."

Hannah remained silent. Janet, concerned, placed a serving of food on her plate. "Hannah, I scheduled an appointment with the family doctor for tomorrow."

Brandon noticed Johanna's tense posture. "Norma was harassing Hannah," he explained. "She'll be staying here for a while."

Johanna simply nodded, her gaze lingering on Janet tending to Hannah. After dinner, she excused herself and retreated to her room.

The next day, Janet found Norma at the studio upon her arrival. With a sigh, she headed straight to her office.

She summoned Lexi and Tasha and announced with a beaming smile, "Guess who I met yesterday at Mrs. Walton's? Mrs. Blake! She's interested in a custom

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The next day, Janet found Norma at the studio upon her arrival. With a sigh, she headed straight to her office.

She summoned Lexi and Tasha and announced with a beaming smile, "Guess who I met yesterday at Mrs. Walton's? Mrs. Blake! She's interested in a custom dress. This is huge, girls! Mrs. Blake is a fashion icon. This is a golden opportunity to make a name for yourselves. Give it your all!"

"Really?" Lexi and Tasha cried out in unison.

Janet grinned. "And she's offered a very generous price."

Norma, eavesdropping nearby, perked up at the mention of a high price tag. Who could possibly afford such extravagance?

An idea sparked in Norma's mind. Stealing the design and selling it on the black market could mean a hefty profit. After all, Janet still owed her a month's wages, right?

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Janet was aware of Norma's eavesdropping, but she chose to ignore her.

The following days were a whirlwind of design activity. Lexi and Tasha poured their energy into the project and finally produced a stunning design that they soon presented to Janet.

Janet was impressed. Lexi both showed remarkable improvement, and Tasha was always a great designer.

After instructing Lexi to store the design securely, Janet planned to present it to Mrs. Blake in a few days.

That evening, at dinner, Janet asked a servant, "Have you seen my parents?"

She hadn't seen Johanna in a few days. Was there some event they were attending?

The servant offered a helpless shrug. "I'm afraid not. Maybe they went to a dinner party."

Janet dismissed it with a shrug and returned to feeding Hannah.

Brandon's gaze lingered on the shoe cabinet. Johanna's usual dinner party heels were still there. She probably wasn't at a dinner party.

After dinner, Janet settled Hannah in for the night and returned to her work. Brandon intercepted her.

"You've been focused on Hannah lately. But don't neglect your parents. You've been worrying over Hannah a lot lately after bringing her back. Personally, I wouldn't appreciate anyone causing my daughter distress. Imagine how they feel."

Brandon's words struck a chord with Janet. Shame washed over her.

While this was her home, she hadn't informed Johanna about Hannah's return.

The recent issues with Norma had also been eating

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at her time. She'd barely spoken to her mother in a long while.

Janet suddenly felt at a loss.