

True Heiress Return to Her Unemployed Rich Family

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Arabella's cool demeanor made Ruby feel awkward, but she kept smiling. "Yes, Naomi is having a rough time. But I'm glad you're okay."

Arabella glanced at her, raising an eyebrow meaningfully. "Thanks for your concern. It's so kind of you to leave Naomi alone first thing in the morning just to check on me."

So much for their close bond. If they were really that tight, would she ditch Naomi this early to come 'comfort' me?

Ruby didn't pick up on her tone, mistaking it for engagement.

She quickly lost interest in the small talk, her eyes drifting back to the bag on Arabella's table.

"Oh, isn't that the limited edition bag I saw yesterday? Naomi said she'd give it to me as a reward since she saw how much I liked it." Ruby sighed dramatically. "How embarrassing! We had no idea all these gifts were for you."

She made sure to emphasize just how much she adored that particular bag.

Arabella shot her a look. Sharp as she was, she immediately understood Ruby was hinting that she wanted the bag.

No wonder she came to my room at the crack of dawn. Nothing like a little self-interest to get someone out of bed.

We are practically strangers, having met only yesterday, and here she is already asking for things. Where does she get the nerve?

Arabella wasn't having any of it. She acted as if she hadn't heard the hint at all. "Oh, really? If you like it that much, you can buy one yourself. I don't mind having the same bag."

Ruby's face stiffened.

This country bumpkin! I spelled it out for her, and she's giving me nothing?

She's new here. She doesn't know how things work. I'm trying to be friendly. Doesn't she know anything about social graces?

*If she plays nice with me, I could help her out later if Naomi causes trouble. Without any **allies, she's no** match for Naomi, who grew up in Cloudrise Manor.*

Ruby collected herself, plastering on a shrewd smile. "I could buy it myself. But as you know,

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it's a limited edition. Money doesn't guarantee you'll get one. You have so many bags and clothes. You won't miss just one. Think of it as a welcome gift for me. We could look out for each other in this house from now on. Right?"

Seeing her subtle approach hadn't worked, Ruby decided to be blunt.

Surely she gets it now?

But Arabella just shook her head cheerfully. "No, it's fine. Actually, I don't even like this bag. I'll have someone return it later. Then you can buy it yourself. Two birds with one stone, don't you think?"

Ruby's face turned ashen.

Arabella just got home, and she already has no clue how things are done!

She won't even give me a bag.

She even wants to return it, then let me buy it.

Making me buy her cast-off? That's just an insult!

Furious but unwilling to make a scene, Ruby forced a sarcastic tone. "My mistake. If you want. to return it, go ahead. I don't want someone else's rejects anyway."

If Arabella would rather return it than give it to me, there is no point sticking around to be humiliated.

Then Ruby said, "The servants called us for breakfast. I'll go get Naomi. You can find your way down yourself."

Having gained nothing from Arabella, Ruby shot her an angry glare and stormed out.

Arabella watched her go with a mocking glance and a cold snort. “Did she really think I’m some pushover? Just because you ask, I have to hand it over? Talk about having no self-

awareness.”

Outside in the hallway, Ruby fumed. “That little brat! How ridiculous! All I did was ask for one bag. She has so many, but she wouldn’t spare a single one. So stingy and petty. She’s nothing compared to Naomi!”

*If Arabella becomes the favorite and Naomi loses her standing, what good will I get out of this **family** then?*

Naomi might have her princess moments, but she always shared the good stuff with me.

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Arabella clearly won’t be that easy to win over.

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Ruby murmured, “You just wait. I won’t let you stay comfortable here for long...”

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“Ruby, what are you muttering about back there?” Naomi’s voice from behind made Ruby jump.

She spun around, guilt flashing across her face. “Naomi! You’re up. The servants called us for breakfast. I was just letting Arabella know, in case no one told her.”

Seeing that Ruby had gone to cozy up to Arabella first thing in the morning, Naomi’s expression turned cold.

Last night, I told her everything. I thought she understood me. But it seems she’s just as interested in Arabella.