

## Chapter 1976 You Do Nothing But Collect You...

It was late at night.

Johanna and Beal were getting worried because Janet hadn't returned yet.

Just as Johanna was about to call Janet, they heard a car pull up outside.

When Beal stepped outside, he noticed several bodyguards trailing behind Janet and Brandon, who were lugging numerous bags.

Exhausted, Janet and Brandon collapsed onto the sofa.

Johanna chuckled and said, "You two look like you've run a marathon. Did you go shopping or escape from somewhere?"

Janet took a couple of gulps of water, then passed the glass to Brandon.

Taking a deep drink, Brandon explained, "The moment Janet stepped into the mall, she wanted to buy everything. We must have walked around that mall a dozen times."

Janet added, "There're just so many baby things, and all of them are so pretty and eye-catching."

Johanna started unpacking several large bags and, as expected, Janet had bought a lot.

She smiled, handed the bags to Beal, and suggested, "Why don't you take these to the baby room? You two should head upstairs and get some rest."

Once back in her room, Janet felt a sudden urge to light the scented candle.

Brandon halted her and asked, "What's been happening lately?"

With a furrowed brow, Janet replied, "I'm not sure. I just really love the scent of this candle, almost obsessively. Maybe Adriana has a great sense for it, and it's exactly to my liking."

Though Brandon was skeptical, Adriana had come highly recommended by Garrett and was Johanna's best friend, so he trusted their judgment.

He sighed, feeling a bit defeated, and suggested, "Let's skip the candle tonight. You're pregnant, after all. It's better to use less."

"Alright, we'll go with your suggestion."

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By month's end, Norma had been working at Janet's studio for a full month.

At lunchtime, Lexi told Norma to bring in the meals.

Norma felt irritated. She couldn't stand Lexi's authoritative tone. As she handed out the boxed lunches, her demeanor was noticeably sour.

Lexi muttered under her breath about Norma. "You do nothing but collect your paycheck, don't you?"

Offended by Lexi's remark, Norma retorted, "Lexi, watch it! If you disrespect me again, I'm going to complain to Janet!"

Confident she was in the right, Lexi replied, "Feel free to tell her anytime."

In distress, Norma stormed into Janet's office, crying and yelling.

Lexi entered the room too, her eyes red with agitation as she exclaimed, "She just collects her paycheck and doesn't handle anything I ask her to do!"

"Alright, I understand." After calming Lexi down, Janet turned to Norma. "Please, step outside for a moment."

Norma shot Lexi an angry look before storming out.

Once Norma was gone, Janet faced Lexi again. "How do you see me as a person?"


Lexi dabbed at her tears and responded, "I've always looked up to you and seen you as fair. But I just can't figure out why Norma is even at our studio."

"I don't want her here either, but there's a reason for it. Don't worry; she won't be around forever," Janet replied, wiping Lexi's tears gently.

"Really?" Lexi looked hopeful.

Janet nodded decisively. "Yes, and you'll get your paycheck this afternoon, so let's see a smile."

Meanwhile, Norma was eagerly anticipating her own pay. She remembered the receptionist's salary at

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Janet's studio from the early days. It was quite generous, more than what she used to earn.

Later that afternoon, Tasha saw her salary deposit notification on her mobile banking app and excitedly informed Lexi that the money was in.

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