A Ticket for Two (B1 · English B1)

Tekst / Transcript

My sister Ella and I spent three months planning a surprise for our parents. Their wedding anniversary was in June, and we wanted something special. We saved money from our part-time jobs. This idea came to me while I was cleaning the kitchen. Our mother loved the theatre, and our father loved music. So we bought two tickets for a big performance of a famous musical in the city.

The hardest part was keeping the secret. Ella almost told our mother twice during dinner. I gave her a simple tip: say nothing at all, and just smile. She laughed and agreed. Throughout the whole of May, we hid the tickets inside an old cookbook. Nobody ever opened that book, so it was a safe place. We also booked a table at a small Italian restaurant near the theatre.

On the morning of the anniversary, we put the tickets on the breakfast table. Our mother read them three times and then hugged us. Our father asked if the tickets were ours or theirs. "They are yours," Ella said proudly. He took the news seriously and immediately started checking the train times. My parents tend to worry about being late for everything. That is just their way.

The day itself went perfectly well. The weather was warm and the streets were quiet. My parents walked along the river till half past six, then went to the restaurant. Our mother later said the food was excellent and the waiter was very pleasant. She sent us a photo from her seat in the theatre, five minutes before the lights went down.

They came home close to midnight. Personally, I had expected a short thank-you and nothing more. Instead, our father talked about the show for an hour. He said he had not enjoyed an evening like that for years. Our mother told us that the singers had wonderful voices. She also said that a family cannot buy such memories unless somebody makes an effort. Ella and I looked at each other and smiled. We already had a new plan for next year.

Woordenlijst

Word	Meaning
innocent	
intelligence	
intend	
intention	
investigate	
involved	
iron	
issue	
supporter	
surely	
talent	
talented	
tend	
theirs	
this	
throughout	
till	
tip	

unless
perfectly
performance
personally
planning
pleasant
seriously

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