

NANCY TUCKERMAN SC. I

68. INT. JACKIE'S BEDROOM - WHITE HOUSE - THE NEXT DAY

Outside -- a bright and clear November morning. At her dressing table -- Jackie combs her hair.

Nancy stands behind her, holding up two dresses for her to choose from.

START

JACKIE

The Dior. It will go better with the veil.

Nancy nods and dutifully hangs it on a nearby hook.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

How long have we been together, Nancy? You and I?

Nancy returns the other dress to the closet, and begins arranging jewelry for Jackie.

NANCY

Oh, I don't know. Since Miss Chapin's. Since we were just little girls.

JACKIE

It's funny... I always worried you might be jealous.

Nancy stops.

NANCY

Oh Jackie...

JACKIE

You never did anything to make me feel that way. But I worried. After I married Jack. And after he won the election.

(beat)

Now that must seem silly. Anyone being jealous. I've buried two children and a husband.

Nancy is not sure how to respond. But she is no longer an employee -- just an old friend..

NANCY

I was jealous. Of that dress you wore in Vienna.

Jackie smiles, grateful for the release. Nancy settles onto the edge of the bed, next to her.

JACKIE

NANCY CONT.

NANCY
(CONT'D)

It may be hard to see right now,
but you have your whole life
ahead of you. Starting over will
be hard.

Hinting at a secrets shared between them--

NANCY
(CONT'D)

But it's a chance to do some
things better.

JACKIE

(wistful)

He wasn't perfect
(beat)

But he inspired people. Made
them imagine their potential.

(beat)

I never stopped believing in
his. Does that make me a fool,
Nancy?

NANCY

Not unless we all are. The
whole country believed in him.

Jackie slowly turns to Nancy, a fervor in her eyes.

JACKIE

It's too much for the children
to live up to.

(beat)

I can't have them spend their
lives chasing their dead father's
legacy. If I do nothing else, I
want them to grow up normally. To
get jobs. To be happy.

Nancy reaches out for Jackie's hand.

NANCY

When you first asked me to
work here -- do you remember
why I turned you down?

JACKIE

Barely. Something about not
having the training.

NANCY

I worked in a travel agency. What
did I know about planning State
Dinners? But you convinced me,
and I was nervous as can be. And
for the first few weeks, I
wondered if I'd made a terrible
mistake. All the stuffy formality.
The layers of authority. The eyes
on us both. And, then, that blimp
came to town.

JACKIE

NANCY SC. I Cont.

Jackie smiles at the memory.

NANCY (CONT'D)

And you took John and Caroline
and raced out to the airfield
and took them floating over the
hills of Virginia. I thought the
Secret Service would have a heart
attack, racing below trying to
keep track of that balloon...

JACKIE

(warmly)

Jack gave me a stern talking
to after that little
adventure.

NANCY

Those are the luckiest children
on earth.

JACKIE

I'm just so scared, Nancy.

NANCY

I know.

The two women hold each other tightly.

END

JACKIE