

## LAURA AND LISA AUDITION CUTS

LAURA

Hmmmmmm..... well - let's see.....it looks.....wait a minute – something's behind the lining – cutting through - it feels like ..... paper.

LISA

Paper? Well maybe she used the paper to sort of back up her stitching. She had never done a monogram before.

LAURA

Well maybe – but – I'll have to remove whatever it is in order to fix the lining. But how do I do that? Let's see.....Wait a second.....

*Laura fiddles a bit and removes a folded piece of paper.*

LAURA

Well – look at this.

LISA

Is that parchment? It looks like it could be parchment.

LAURA

I think it is. What do we do now?

LISA

Unfold it.

LAURA

But – should we?

LISA

YES!!!

*Laura unfolds the parchment very carefully and reads:*

LAURA

My Darling Barbara.....I will always love you. You are forever in my heart. July 1952.

LISA

What's that all about? What does this mean? (*Laura hands Lisa the unfolded parchment*)  
This is beautiful penmanship. But it doesn't look like Dad's handwriting.

LAURA

Well – no – it couldn't be Dad. They didn't meet until 1958.

LISA

Oh wow – someone she loved before she met Dad? Wait – July 1952– yes – the Korean War. I wonder if she had a sweetheart – who went to war – and was killed – and she saved this all these years. Undying love.

LAURA

Let's see – 1952 – she was still at Wayne State.

LISA

She met him at the college -they fell in love – He was drafted. He went off to war. Maybe he was killed, or maybe he was missing in action, or maybe he came back from the war – traumatized and didn't want to marry Mom.....

LAURA

Lisa.....

LISA

Or Grandpa didn't like him and he put the kibosh on the wedding.

LAURA

Maybe it was another woman.

LISA

Ohhhhhhhhhh yes – exploring her sexuality in college. They fell in love – forbidden love at that time.....It could have happened to Mom.

LAURA

Are you quite through?

LISA

*(Lisa begins looking for paper and pen)* We'll have to word our questions for yes and no answers. Let's write them down.....

LAURA

Questions? We're not going to ask her anything AND we are **definitely not** going to tell her about this.

LISA

What? How can you say that? Aren't you the least bit curious as to what this all means?

LAURA

Of course I am. But we have to think of Mom. She clearly hid this in the coat – so no one would find it.

LISA

Ohhhhhhhhhh..... maybe Dad found it. Like in her jewelry box or behind a hidden panel in a dresser drawer. And he insisted she get rid of it. But she couldn't. So she hid it in the coat.

LAURA

You know..... things are looking a bit different now. I often wondered why she insisted she do her own monogram and why she placed the monogram so much into the coat. See - traditionally monograms are here. But she placed it way in so no one would see it...or touch it... ohhhhhhhhh wait a minute ...*(Laura pauses and puts the coat on)* .....look - when she wore the coat – it was OVER her heart. Oh– my goodness. This is why she wore it all the time. Because whoever wrote the note was very important to her and she needed it close to her – but she didn't want anyone to know about it. That's why she didn't let Dad have it monogrammed for her.

LISA

We have to ask her.

LAURA

No – absolutely not. In fact, I am going to put this back in there. I will very carefully sew everything back in place. And with her eyesight the way it is – hopefully, she won't notice.