

Your Prom Dress

I asked if you remembered the night of your senior prom
You responded yes
But that you went to three proms throughout high school
So they all blend together
You said your senior year was different because you went with your best friend rather than a date

You got your hair permed for each of your separate proms
So you asked if I wanted to do anything special for my hair
I said I would do it myself
No need to spend more money
I worked the day of prom so there wasn't time anyway

You let me try on your prom dress to see if I would want to wear it
It fit better than I had expected
And I did feel glamorous
We both knew it wasn't exactly my style

You gave me the earrings you wore to prom
I usually wear hoops, but you told me pearls are timeless and match everything
I wonder if that's what you thought when you wore them in 1990

You bought me a new dress
Of course, the most expensive one we looked at
A friend of yours came over to alter it so it would fit perfectly

You curled my hair for the senior prom
When you offered to you seemed so determined to help
If I had really wanted curly hair I would have been upset with the results
But I just wanted you to do my hair

You posted to facebook a picture of me sulking in that dress with the caption:
"Her date is running late"
We acted like it was funny
I wonder if you knew how upset I was

You took our picture on the front porch
I made you take three steps back
You are known for zooming in far too much

I came home later than expected
You texted me to put one foot on the ground to stop nausea
I was so embarrassed you knew I was sick

You sent me a picture of yourself at your senior prom

Along with a comment about the ridiculous black gloves you wore
I didn't say anything, but I think they looked lovely

In the picture you stand next to your best friend
Both wearing elegant black dresses
I wished my best friend was the one next to me in my pictures too

Your dress wasn't my style back then
I would wear it in a heartbeat now
Paired with the ridiculous black gloves
I wonder if you know that

HANNAH'S COMMENTS:

- I love love love the simple sentence style you used. It fits really well with the idea/theme, it works because you're letting your details do the work which is really ideal for poetry. Simplicity = hard hitting poetry. Reminds of rupi kaur
- I think there are some ideas that could benefit from a little bit more direction for the reader; for example, the idea about you at first wanting to do your own hair, but then writing that you allowed her to do it for you. I think this is a really great juxtaposition to put in emotionally, but I got a little confused. Maybe a clarification/transition line could work (I'm not sure how exactly, but just a thought! It still came through that you changed your mind because of the emotional connection)

Bella's Comments:

-I'm going to cry this is so sweet. I love your sentence structure and the way you shaped a story around paralleling prom stories. I remember a little bit about your original story and I love the idea of prom through the decades and dresses as artifacts.

-I'm not sure if I didn't have that context that I would completely understand the rhetorical artifact bit, but I don't think that needs to be part of this because that wasn't a goal of your RGA.

-I don't have any revisional comments because I don't want to interfere with any of the themes you presented, but lmk if you have any specific questions!