



A Mother's Day Surprise

By Lois Lewis

NARRATOR 1:

It's noon on Saturday. Jay Thomas and his sister, Nadia, have just been dropped off at the mall. Their dad will be back in two hours to pick them up. In the meantime, the siblings plan to buy a special Mother's Day gift for their mom.

NARRATOR 2:

Jay and Nadia begin their shopping adventure at Smith's, the largest department store in the mall.

NADIA: (to Jay)

Let's start in the jewelry department.

NARRATOR 1:

As Jay and Nadia look at a pair of sparkling gold earrings, they hear a pair of soft voices coming from the jewelry case.

EARRINGS:

Hey, kids! Buy us!

JAY (puzzled):

W-Who . . . What said that?

EARRINGS:

We did!

JAY:

Talking earrings? No way!

EARRINGS:

Way! You know your mom will like us.

NADIA (looking at the price tag):

Forget it, Jay! Those are too expensive. Let's keep looking.

NARRATOR 2:

Jay and Nadia head over to the perfume section.

PERFUME BOTTLE:

Yoo-hoo! Over here! Buy me, darlings!

JAY:

Huh? Talking perfume?

PERFUME SET:

Of course, precious! I also have the most lovely fragrance.

NADIA (to Jay):

Everyone buys perfume for Mother's Day. I want something different.

NARRATOR 1:

Passing by a table of scarves, Jay and Nadia hear yet another voice.

SCARF:

Dears, you simply must purchase me!

JAY:

More talking merchandise?

SCARF:

My beautiful colors can dress up any outfit!

NADIA:

Mom doesn't wear scarves. Let's try another store.

NARRATOR 2:

The siblings stroll out the door of Smith's into the interior of the mall. As they pass a garden shop, a low voice calls out to them.

POTTED PLANT:

Hey! Look over here! Take me!

JAY:

Oh no! You talk too?

POTTED PLANT:

Of course! I'm a perennial. And my gorgeous flowers are easy to care for.

NADIA:

Mom already has lots of plants. Let's keep looking!

NARRATOR 1:

As Jay and Nadia continue walking, the display in the window of the card shop catches Jay's eye.

JAY:

Hey, Nadia, check this out. This card is almost as big as I am!

CARD: (loudly)

Show your mom how much you care -- in a BIG way! Buy me!

NARRATOR 2:

Startled, Jay and Nadia jump back from the window and hurry away. As they pass other stores, the air seems filled with the voices of cozy comforters, pretty purses, practical pots and pans, and more.

NADIA:

This is crazy! Why are all these things talking to us? I need a break. Let's go to the food court and get some pizza and soft drinks.

JAY: (to Nadia)

We've been walking around the mall for more than an hour and we still haven't found a gift for Mom!

NARRATOR 1:

Suddenly, a voice whispers from Nadia's soft drink cup...

SOFT DRINK CUP:

Who says you have to *buy* a Mother's Day gift for your mom?

JAY:

Oh boy . . . Here we go again!

SOFT DRINK CUP:

Listen up! Your mom works hard all day at the hospital. Then she comes home and works hard to take care of your family. What she needs most is rest! Why don't you give your mom a day off ?

NADIA:

What a great idea! We'll ask Dad to help us.

NARRATOR 2:

Jay and Nadia quickly finish their food and race to meet their dad. Mr. Thomas is puzzled when he doesn't see any packages.

MR. THOMAS:

Hi, kids. What happened? Didn't you find a gift for Mom?

JAY:

Dad, we do have a present, but it isn't something we can put in a box.

NARRATOR 1:

Jay and Nadia explain their idea to their dad. Mr. Thomas nods and smiles in approval.

MR. THOMAS:

That's great! How did you think of that gift?

NADIA:

Uh . . . It just came to us while we were having a snack.

MR. THOMAS:

Well, I know Mom will appreciate it. We'll go to the supermarket on the way home and buy some of her favorite foods.

NARRATOR 2:

It's morning on Mother's Day. Mr. Thomas, Jay, and Nadia get up early to prepare breakfast.

NARRATOR 1:

Mr. Thomas carries a tray of food upstairs. Jay and Nadia knock on the bedroom door.

MRS. THOMAS (stretching and yawning):

Come in!

JAY, NADIA AND MR. THOMAS (together):

Happy Mother's Day!

MRS. THOMAS (sitting up):

Breakfast in bed! How lovely! Everything looks delicious.

NARRATOR 2:

Jay gives his mom a piece of paper with a red ribbon tied around it.

MRS. THOMAS (puzzled):

What's this, Jay?

JAY:

Read it, Mom.

MRS. THOMAS: (smiling)

"Hear ye, hear ye, members of the Thomas family! Today is Mother's Day! We will honor our mother by giving her a day of rest and relaxation. Her wish is our command!" Wow! What a wonderful gift! This is so thoughtful of you!

NARRATOR 1:

Mrs. Thomas spent the entire day doing as she pleased -- reading, napping, and watching her favorite movies. Jay and Nadia helped their dad do the chores and cook a tasty dinner. After the meal, Mrs. Thomas hugged everyone.

MRS. THOMAS:

This has been the best day ever. Thank you all, so much!

NARRATOR 2:

It's Monday morning. The alarm clock rings. Mrs. Thomas gets up and knocks on the doors to Jay and Nadia's rooms.

MRS. THOMAS:

Jay, Nadia, wake up! It's time for school! *(sighing, to herself) If only every day could be Mother's Day . . .*

