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1	Transcript	Lady Bird Johnson's Diary, Page 3		1	6/03/1964	C

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 Initials

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Wednesday, June 3, 1964

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A day of graduation exercises.

Lyndon left in the morning to go and speak to the Coast Guard Academy at New London, Connecticut and I gave the commencement address at Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School for Beth Jenkins graduation.

Georgetown Visitation is the second oldest Catholic girls school in the country. In a small auditorium in a building that is 165 years old, there was standing room only. I was glad to see Marjorie and Walter in the front row, with Beth's <sup>lean</sup> ~~boy~~ and Luci.

I was met at the front door by Sister Roberta, who, because she belongs to a <sup>C</sup>loistered <sup>O</sup>Order, ~~she~~ cannot actually come outside.

Nearly all the teachers were Nuns and on the stage I sat with Archbishop John Spence.

The graduates in their white dresses, long, and the big bouquets of red roses, came filing in, looking so fresh and pretty. This was the first time I had ever seen Beth listed as Elizabeth Anna Jenkins. Also in the class was Lynda Jean Montoya, the daughter of Congressman and Mrs. Montoya of New Mexico.

It was about a C plus speech actually, but I liked the part about their making their ultimate objective not the kind of success that is measured by promotion, rewards and affluence. <sup>//</sup> Success is not always in getting, it is more often giving. It does not consist of what we do but rather what we are. Success is not always an accomplishment, it can be a state of mind. <sup>//</sup> The quiet dignity of a home, the relationship of the individuals in that home.

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And then something that I like to accent. The fact that women today are called on to play a role unparalleled since frontier times. In those days, she served as wife, teacher, physician, and often community leader in her settlement town.

And then there were some specifics about the summer. I wanted them to do anything except vegetate, although it's good to vegetate for just a little but not the whole summer long. Perhaps they might get part time jobs, like my daughter, Luci, or maybe do some community work, like go down to the Urban Service Corps where Mrs. Annette Read would gladly sign them up, as a reading aid for children, or as a library helper.

In spite of its being only C plus, Walter and Marjorie looked pleased and that was the main thing I was there for, as a substitute for Lyndon.

Then the awarding of diplomas, the Bishop gave each girl her diploma and very often, <sup>g</sup>a personal remark to each one, something about "Aren't you the daughter of ..." or perhaps "I remember your good grandmother." There were a lot of families there who attended Georgetown Visitation for three generations.

Each girl curtsied and kissed his ring when she received her diploma. When it came time for Beth, he handed it to me and I ~~wrote~~ rose and gave it to Beth.

After the graduates had all filed out, everybody went out into the Rose Garden, ablaze with lovely red roses and full of proud parents. I met all the graduates that I could, had my picture taken with Beth and family, with Lynda Montoya and family, and signed innumerable autographs for graduates

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and guests.

And then I left Luci behind to stay and have lunch with Walter and Marjorie and Bill ~~Luci~~<sup>Luci</sup>, and returned to the White House for work on mail.

Actually, this turned out to be a good day for being a mother because it was my good fortune to encounter Luci in the hall, about 7 o'clock just as she was going to have a date ~~SANITIZED~~ <sup>Luci + her latest beau</sup> I got ~~them~~<sup>her</sup> to sit down and talk to me for about an hour or perhaps longer. ~~SANITIZED~~ <sup>him</sup> I had wanted to draw ~~SANITIZED~~ into the family circle and listen to him, and try to make him feel at home. I know it means more to Luci than just about anything I can do for her. <sup>Ja</sup>

Ida May Cain says a mother's job is to listen and some of the best listening that I do is to Luci, although sometimes it takes her an awful long time to get to the point. She can be deep, intuitive, and such an appealing combination of needful child, and flirtatious female, older than Eve. Any hour I snatch with her is one well spent.

Lyndon came in for a very late dinner about 10:30, and then his massive dose of night reading.

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