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“Lien se lankstaanskoene” – Derick van der Walt

Chapter Guide, Part One

This guide, split into two parts, will provide small notes on the content of each chapter of *Lien se lankstaanskoene*, which will allow you to quickly locate important events. This first part will cover ‘Voorspel’ through the Chapter 21, ‘Sjerrie vir die koue’.

Please bear in mind that this guide does not contain all the information that you need to know from *Lien*; it is intended as a quick reference guide.

Voorspel:

This is the prologue of the book and it introduces us to the videos watched throughout the book. *Dit gee ‘n inleiding toe die video’s.*

1 – Geel en gelukkig:

The title is a reference to Christien Jooste, Lien and Braam’s mother, who is an alcoholic. Dit verwys na Christien Jooste. ‘Geel’ here means drunk – the colour is often used to refer to both happiness and drunkenness throughout the book.

2 – Jou standard-skoolnommertjie

Lien is a Matric student at Jakaranda High School (*Hoërskool Jakaranda*). She wants to get away; *sy wil wegkom*. We meet Wouter, Hein and Miemie and learn that Lien wants to study law (*regte*).

3 – ‘n Kakofonie van klanke

When Christien is drunk, she listens to very loud classical music; *sy luister na klassieke musiek*. Lien listens to Norah Jones, and the songs provide a commentary on the events in the book; *Norah lewer kommentaar op Lien se lewe*. Lien gets a job at *Malie se Tuin*.

4 – Die meesterstuk

The title relates to the play, (*toneelstuk*) “The Breakfast Club”, introduced by Juffrou Breytenbach. Juffrou Breytenbach talks to Lien about her attitude at school; *Juffrou Breytenbach praat met Lien*.

5 – Lientjie Lieflik

Wouter agrees with Juffrou Breytenbach, Lien can’t take her anger out on people at school; *Wouter stem saam met Juffrou Breytenbach*. There is a mishap at Malie se Tuin; *daar is ‘n ongeluk by Malie se Tuin*. A priest named Gerhard visits Lien and Braam, she calls him ‘*Kuifie*’; *‘n predikant kom kuier*. Tannie Bets suggests that Lien look for work at Millennium Creations; *Tannie Bets stelvoor dat Lien soek werk by Millennium Creations*.

6 – A change of scenery

Lien and Wouter go to Wimpy and talk about the Matric Dance; *hulle gesels oor die matriekafskeid*. Wouter suggests they go together and make a mockery of the event. Lien gets the job at Millennium Creations.

7 – Effens last season

The chapter title refers to a comment made by Donovan about Lien's hairstyle; *dit verwys na Lien se haarstyl*. The chapter gives a description of Lien's job; *beskryf Lien se werk*. Lien sees a woman begging at the shopping centre and this gives her the idea to start begging; *Lien sien 'n vrou by die sentrum en kry die ideë om te bedel*.

8 – Weird Maria

Lien gets the part of Weird Maria in the play. Lien and Wouter go to the Wimpy again and discuss their absent fathers; *hulle bespreek afwesige pa's*. Braam goes to Creations for a haircut and to ask for sponsorship for his cricket-team; *Braam soek 'n borgskap*.

9 – 'n Rus op die menu

The Russian in the title is a classical composer and the mention of Russia regards Lien adding it to her list of places to go; *dit verwys na Rusland*. Dirkie and Donovan have a fight; *Dirkie en Donovan baklei*.

10 – Iets om die palaat te verfris

Lien and Miemie go to the Wimpy for Miemie's birthday – *dis Miemie se verjaarsdag*. Miemie talks about her family; *praat oor haar gesin – ma is 'n sepieslaaf* (watches soap operas) *en haar pa bou modelvliegtuigies*. Lien is jealous of Wouter and Riekie; *sy is jaloers op Wouter en Miemie*.

11 – Julia Roberts sonder die mond

'Julia Roberts without the mouth' refers to Lien wearing a wig; *dit verwys na Lien met die pruik*. Lien is fired from Creations because Sue-Ellen has come back; *Lien word afgedank omdat Sue-Ellen terug kom*. Lien goes to a travel agent to find out about a ticket overseas; *Lien doen navorsing oor 'n oorsese vlugkaartjie*.

12 – Die traandruppel

The title refers to Chopin's Impromptus; *dit verwys na Chopin se Impromptu's*. Lien goes to Braam's cricket match; *gaan na krieketwedstryd*.

13 – 'n Huis sonder 'n moeder

Lien borrows the wig and glasses from Juffrou Breytenbach; *sy leen die pruik en bril*. Christien complains about prices at Pick n Pay but still buys wine; *ma kla oor pryse by PnP, maar sy koop nog wyn*.

14 – A change of scenery (regtig)

This chapter makes reference to the title of the book and the cover: Lien buys comfortable shoes to beg in, her 'lankstaanskoene'. She begs for the first time and meets Tibbey and Roos; *sy bedel vir die eerste keer en ontmoet vir Tibbey en Roos.*

15 – 'n Bottel Energade

A bottle of Energade makes a day of begging more manageable; *dit maak 'n dag se gebedel makliker.*

16 – Die Pussycat Dolls

Lien gets a lift home with Miemie; *ry huis toe saam met Miemie. Tannie Bets maak vetkoek.* Christien sits in her room, drunk; *ma is dronk in haar kamer.*

17 – Die afgevaardigde van Tibet

The 'representative' of Tibet – links to Tibbey's pronunciation of Lien's name, which makes it sound exotic; *verwys na Tibbey se uitspraak van Lien se naam.* First meeting with Sproet; *eerste ontmoeting met Sproet.*

18 – Tee en kaaskoek

Christien picks Lien up from school while drunk; *Lien se dronk ma haal haar by die skool.* Lien goes to see Kuifie; *Lien sien vir Kuifie.*

19 – Baie sterker as Camel Filters

Sally Swanepoel admits that her dad drinks and smokes a lot; *erken dat haar pa drink en rook baie.* Christien agrees to go to rehab; *sy stem saam om kliniek toe te gaan.*

20 – Nuwe mense relax nou hier

Lien goes to see her old house; *Lien gaan na ou huis.* Wants to use the bathroom as an excuse to go inside, but is not let in; *wil die badkamer gebruik maar die vrou sê nee.*

21 – Sjerrie vir die koue

Lien gets a lift with Hein and his parents; *Lien ry met Hein se ouers.* Tibbey nags Roos about the cold and says that she must drink sherry; *Tibbey terg Roos oor die koue en sê sy moet sjerrie drink.*