



A wonderful wedding-day momento.

Lisa the Beautiful Bride



Jackie Bond made the outfits for the bridal party at her son's wedding. Unbeknown to her future daughter-in-law Lisa, Jackie had secretly drafted a doll-sized pattern of the wedding dress, copying every last detail of her attire from her veil, jewellery, and garter, and even her shoes. Jackie even enlisted the gleeful help of the bridesmaids Kirsty and Bec to send sneak pictures of Lisa's hairstyle from the trial session at the hairdressers. When presented with the doll, Lisa couldn't believe her eyes, and tears of joy and laughter flowed from both Lisa and Jackie. Here's Jackie's instructions on how she painted this beautiful wedding doll.

DOLL

Jackie and Kaye searched for a doll that looked like Lisa, and found "Tatiana" on an all porcelain body By Ali Hanson of Childhood Fantasies. The greenware colour chosen was California Sunrise, which was obtained from Kaye Dunn of www.keepsakesofvanburen.com

MATERIALS

- Seeley's #4 Dark Brown Eyebrow for her eye lashes and brows
- Seeley's Black Satin for her lashes, brows and her tattoo
- Seeley's Rosy Red Cheek Blush for her blush plus her contour and detail shading
- Virginia LaVorgna's First Kiss for her lips and finger nails
- Virginia LaVorgna's Nut Brown for her eye shadow
- Seeley's Rochard paste for her wedding and engagement rings

- Liquid platinum for her two rings
- Medium Rola Joyce water based for all painting except blushing and overall wash
- The Porcelain Place all purpose oil base medium for blushing and overall wash

METHOD

Ensure the greenware is spotless, then remove and partially bevel out the eyes. Then soft fire to cone 018, then clean some more, and then hard soft fire it again to a cone 06, which gives a beautiful finish.

Give a final clean and eye bevel. Fire the doll to bisque and then once that is done, give her a good wash and polish, leaving her silky smooth. Then do the first coat of paint and her lashes and brows with the Dark Brown colour, with a few grains of the satin black to deepen it a tad more.

Then do the first coat on her lips and finger nails in First Kiss. Then add contour shading and detail to her nose, nostrils, ear creases, under her breasts and backs of knees, plus finger and toe grooves and knuckles – basically any low deep points on her body. After this is completed, give these parts their first china paint firing.

If necessary, add a few extra darker hairs to her brows with a few more grains of black to the Dark Brown, to darken it further.

Apply the Nut Brown eye shadow, keeping it mainly on the eyelid itself, and slightly blend upwards towards the brow. Add a second coat of First Kiss to the crease in the lips and blend it outward to give depth of colour to her lips. While you have this colour on the brush, carefully apply her eye dots/tear ducts.

Mix some Rorchard paste with medium and apply a ring to her ring finger for a wedding band. Now do a second china paint fire.





My daughter-in-law has a tattoo of a Chinese good luck symbol at the small of her back, so I carefully painted a copy of the tattoo at the small of the dolls' back using Black Satin.

Give the lips a final touch-up with First Kiss, and then put a second ring on her finger for her engagement ring with Rochard paste. Make sure you leave a minute gap between both rings so you can detect that she is wearing both her rings. Now do the third china paint firing.

Now it's time to add the blush. Use a small amount of the Rosy Red cheek blush to a puddle of oil based medium. (When applying blush, I cannot get a water based medium to work for me, and find the oil based medium works best). This acts as an overall wash in effect and adds a subtle tone to the flesh colour.

Blush her cheeks, chin, forehead, upper arms, elbows, calves of legs, knees, and heels. Think of all of the places the sun hits first, and concentrate on these. I always love this part, as the doll seems to come to life in your hands. Now do the fourth firing.

Now paint the liquid platinum on her two rings. Lisa's rings are white gold and the platinum was the closest colour I could find, however I do believe white gold liquid is available. Now do the final firing.

Now for the fun part – and I hope you enjoy dressing up your Bride Doll as much as I enjoyed dressing up Lisa.

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