

Happy 13th Birthday, Victoria



## Victoria's Sweet Sixteen

by Stephanie Barthoulot



Victoria, surrounded by pink balloons and cream-colored streamers, beamed with excitement on her 13th birthday. A brand-new cookbook lay open in front of her, filled with pictures of beautiful cakes and pastries. The aroma of freshly baked cookies filled the air, a testament to her passion for baking and her love for famous pastry chefs.



Her kitchen was transformed into a baking wonderland, with gold-colored utensils and sprinkles galore. Victoria, wearing a stylish apron, carefully measured ingredients for her dream cake. She imagined herself as a future pastry chef, creating exquisite desserts in a stylish Parisian patisserie.



Later, Victoria sat at her vanity, experimenting with makeup and watching beauty influencer tutorials. She admired the latest fashion trends and planned her outfits for her school trip to London. Her room was a reflection of her vibrant personality, filled with pink and gold accents.



A map of New York City hung on her wall, pinned with photos of famous landmarks. Victoria dreamt of visiting the Big Apple someday. Her heart fluttered with anticipation as she looked forward to exploring the city's culinary scene and fashion boutiques.



In April 2026, Victoria eagerly boarded the plane to London with her friends. She envisioned herself exploring historic sites, shopping in trendy boutiques, and maybe even catching a fashion show. The trip represented a huge step towards realizing her dreams.



Back in her kitchen, Victoria confidently iced her birthday cake, a masterpiece adorned with cream frosting and gold sprinkles. Looking ahead, she knew that with every recipe she learned and every fashion trend she tried, she was one step closer to making her dreams a reality.