



Nari - 2025 RotY Awards

**Category: Residential Bathroom
over \$150,000**

Project Name: Earthy Escape

This primary bathroom remodel transformed an outdated space into a luxurious, spa-like sanctuary, precisely meeting the clients' desire for an earthy, yet opulent, retreat.

The design foundation balances warm and cool tones through a striking marble vanity, complemented by a serene porcelain tile floor laid in an elegant chevron pattern.

Elevated textures define the space, from the custom fluted wood cabinetry of the vanity to the exquisitely detailed arched niche that forms a focal point at the freestanding tub.

The entire design is unified by the warm, living finish of unlacquered brass plumbing and lighting fixtures, which introduce a timeless elegance that will gracefully patina over time.

The result is a profoundly calm and relaxing environment, a testament to thoughtful design and meticulous craftsmanship.

Client Needs & Design Solutions

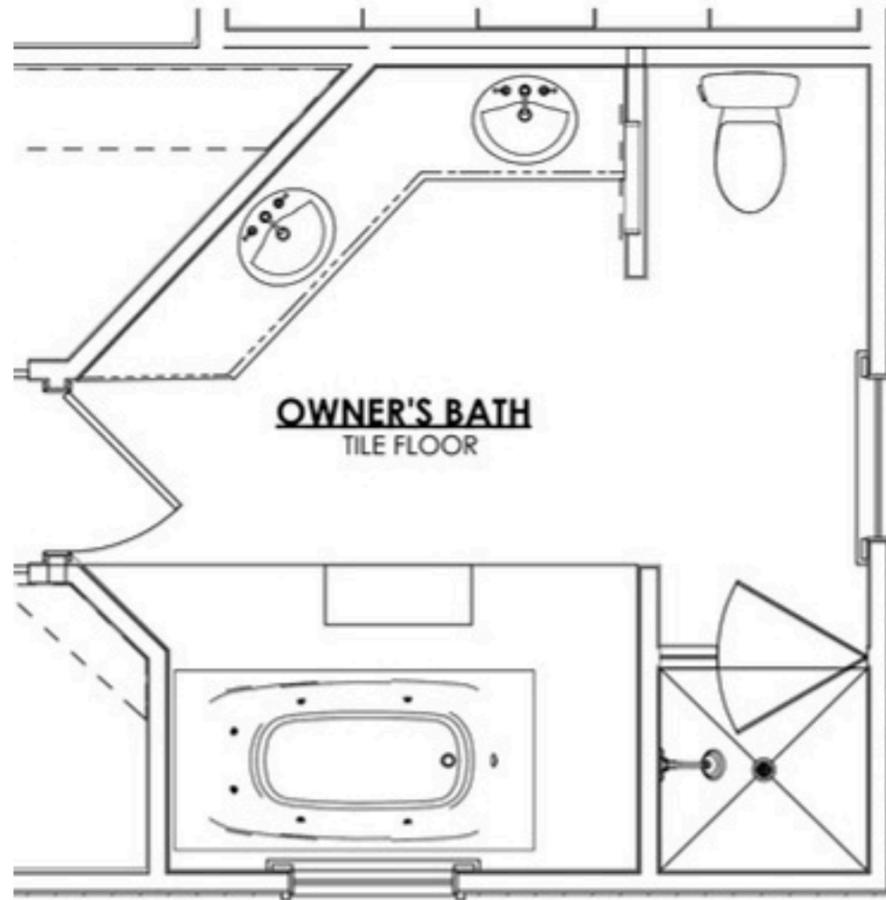
- **NEED:** To transform an outdated bathroom into a serene, calm, and luxurious spa-like retreat.
 - **SOLUTION:** A cohesive design palette was implemented, using warm and cool-toned marble on the countertops and shower walls, paired with subtle pops of color and a porcelain chevron floor tile to establish a tranquil and opulent atmosphere.
- **NEED:** A significant increase in highly functional, personalized storage.
 - **SOLUTION:** A large, custom vanity was designed to serve as the primary storage hub, featuring a combination of deep drawers, custom pull-outs, and dedicated organizational inserts for each partner's specific needs.
- **NEED:** A freestanding tub that offered a beautiful aesthetic without requiring high maintenance.
 - **SOLUTION:** An acrylic freestanding tub was selected for its delicate, sculptural lines and low-maintenance durability, providing a luxurious soaking experience that is practical for everyday life.
- **NEED:** A bright, airy space that maximized the available natural light.
 - **SOLUTION:** The material palette and layout were intentionally chosen to amplify light. The polished marble surfaces, light-colored tiles, and large mirrors were strategically placed to ensure natural light bounces throughout the room, creating a bright and expansive feel.



Earthy Escape

Before Floor Plan

This 133-square-foot bathroom in a Minneapolis home was once a floor plan nightmare—marked by awkward angles, disjointed spaces, dated pink tile, oversized mirrors, and poor lighting.

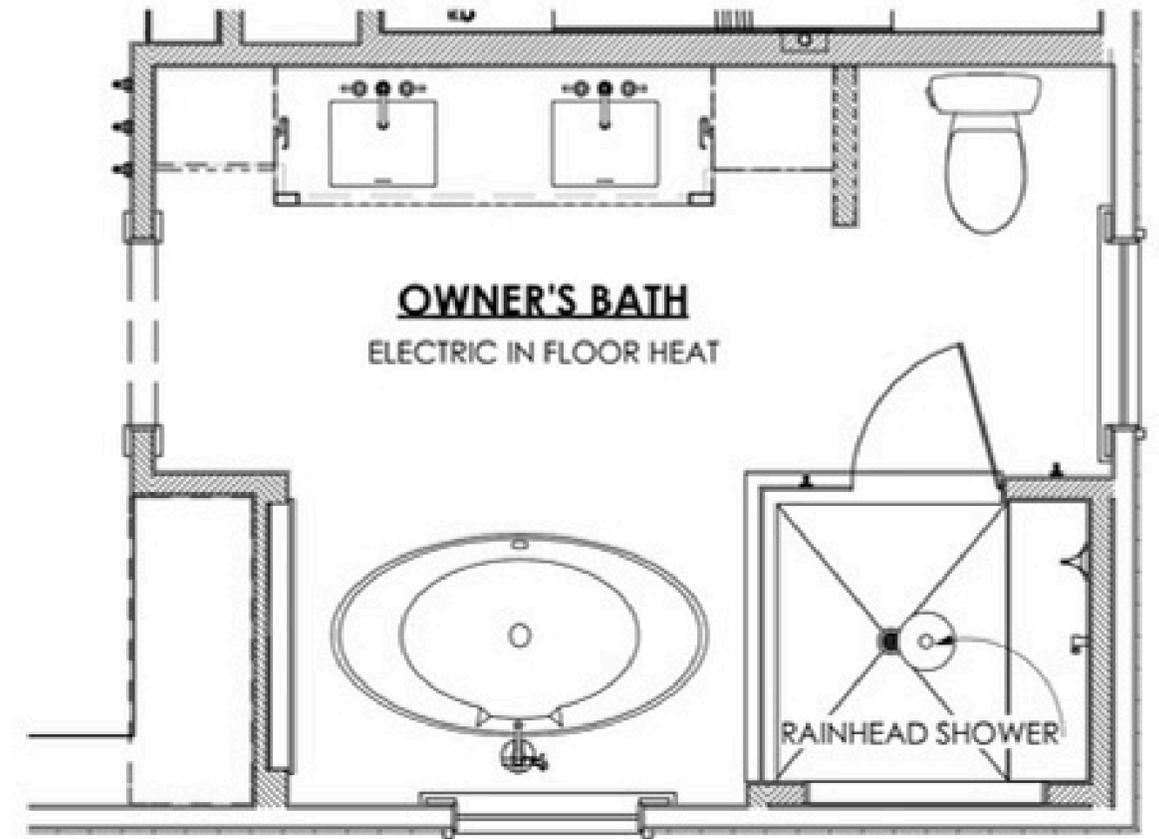


Before

The layout felt cramped and inefficient, with minimal storage and no connection to the rest of the home's evolving design.

After Floor Plan

Our design solution began with a full layout overhaul. We eliminated unnecessary angles and reorganized the zones for improved flow and usability, while strategically keeping plumbing fixtures close to their existing locations to manage the project budget effectively.



After



Before

BEFORE

The original bathroom was defined by a series of dysfunctional and aesthetically jarring elements. Awkwardly angled mirrors created a disjointed look, while decorative pendant lighting failed to provide adequate task or ambient illumination for the vanity. These issues were compounded by a vanity that offered minimal and poorly configured storage, resulting in a cluttered and inefficient space that failed to meet the homeowners' daily needs.

After

The vanity wall was completely reimaged to be both a functional powerhouse and a stunning focal point. A large, custom-designed vanity now provides ample, organized storage, solving all previous deficiencies. The cabinetry, crafted from fluted white oak and finished in a sophisticated mid-tone stain, introduces a rich tactile texture to the room. This central element strikes a perfect balance between modern and traditional aesthetics, anchoring the serene space with a feeling of grounded, quiet luxury.



After



Before

The bathing area was dominated by a cumbersome built-in tub, encased in a dated tile surround that was difficult to access and offered no aesthetic value. The entire feature felt heavy and utilitarian, detracting from any sense of comfort or luxury.



After

A sculptural, freestanding tub now serves as the room's serene centerpiece. It is anchored by a custom-designed arched niche, which is detailed with the same fluted white oak as the vanity to add texture, warmth, and architectural beauty. This thoughtful composition transforms the act of bathing into a true spa-like experience and is the defining feature of the bathroom's tranquil aesthetic.



Before

BEFORE

The original shower was an undersized, fully enclosed stall that felt dark and dungeon-like.

Hidden behind a solid wall, it was completely disconnected from the rest of the bathroom, contributing to a cramped and compartmentalized feeling.

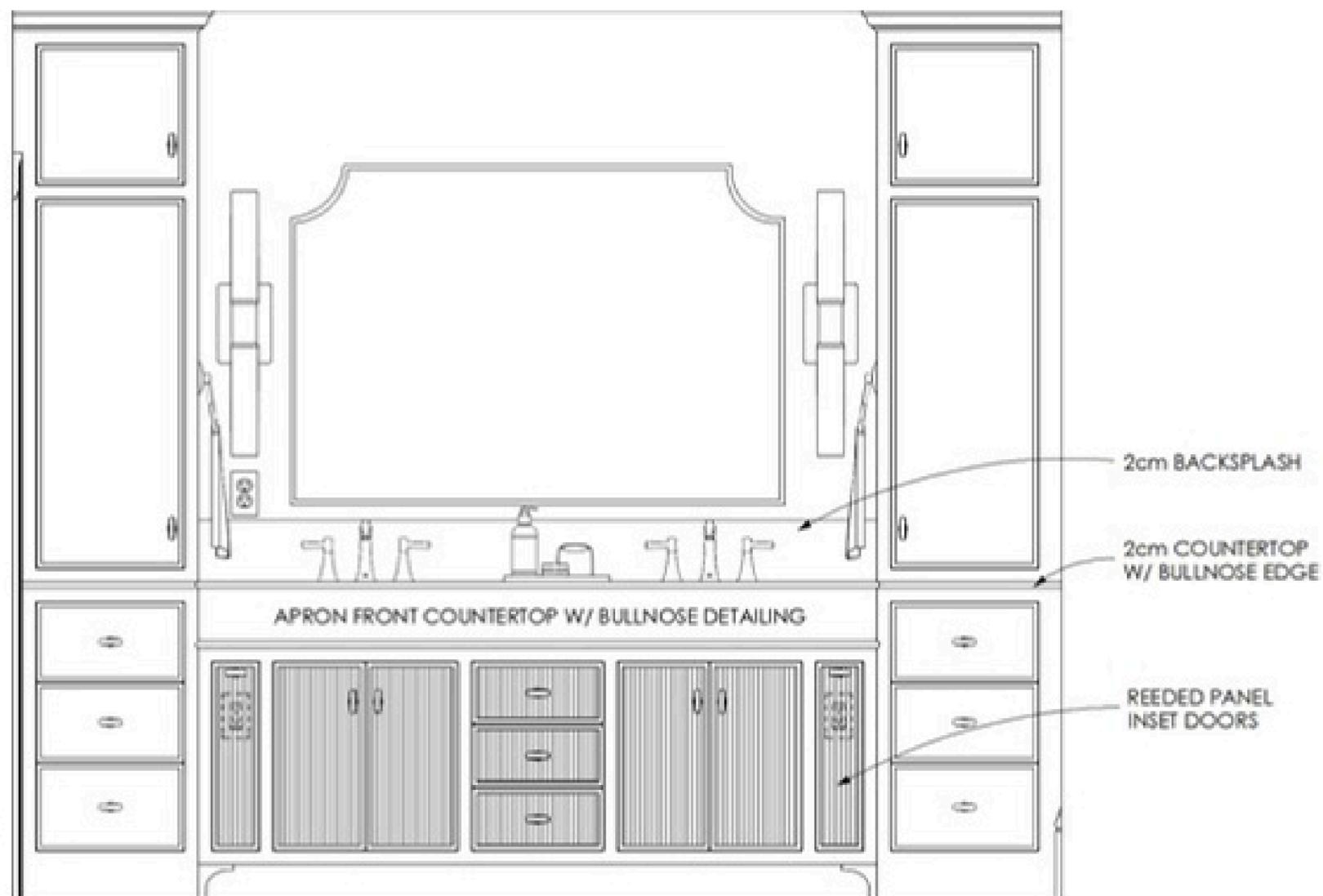
AFTER

By removing the enclosing wall, the shower was transformed into a spacious shower with bench that is now a highlight of the room. The new design adds another layer of luxury to the bathroom's spa-like feel, featuring a subtly modeled, cream-colored field tile that pairs warmly with the coolness of the adjacent marble. A ceiling-mounted rain shower head and a complementary wall-mounted head offer a versatile, spa-quality bathing experience.



After

Function and Beauty



The custom vanity was designed to be the functional and aesthetic centerpiece of the bathroom. Functionally, it was meticulously planned to provide each partner with their own dedicated and highly customized storage. Aesthetically, it introduces a crucial layer of texture to the serene space; a prominent fluted detail on the main cabinet fronts is artfully balanced by flat panels and a delicate beaded detail on the side towers, preventing the texture from becoming overwhelming. The mid-tone stain was carefully selected to anchor the room with warmth without feeling heavy, making the vanity a masterful blend of personalized function and sophisticated design.



The vanity's interior was engineered with the same precision as its exterior.

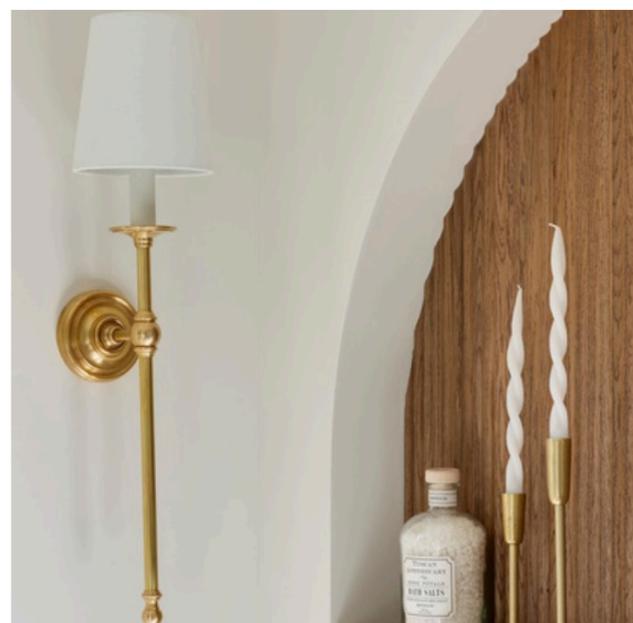
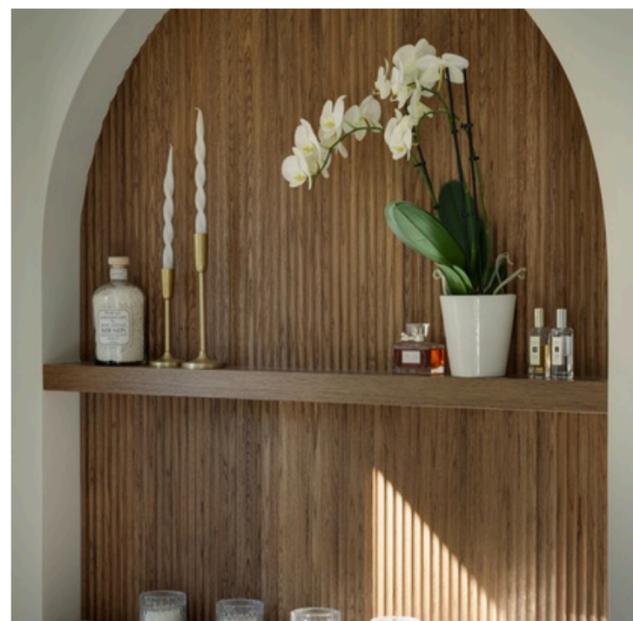
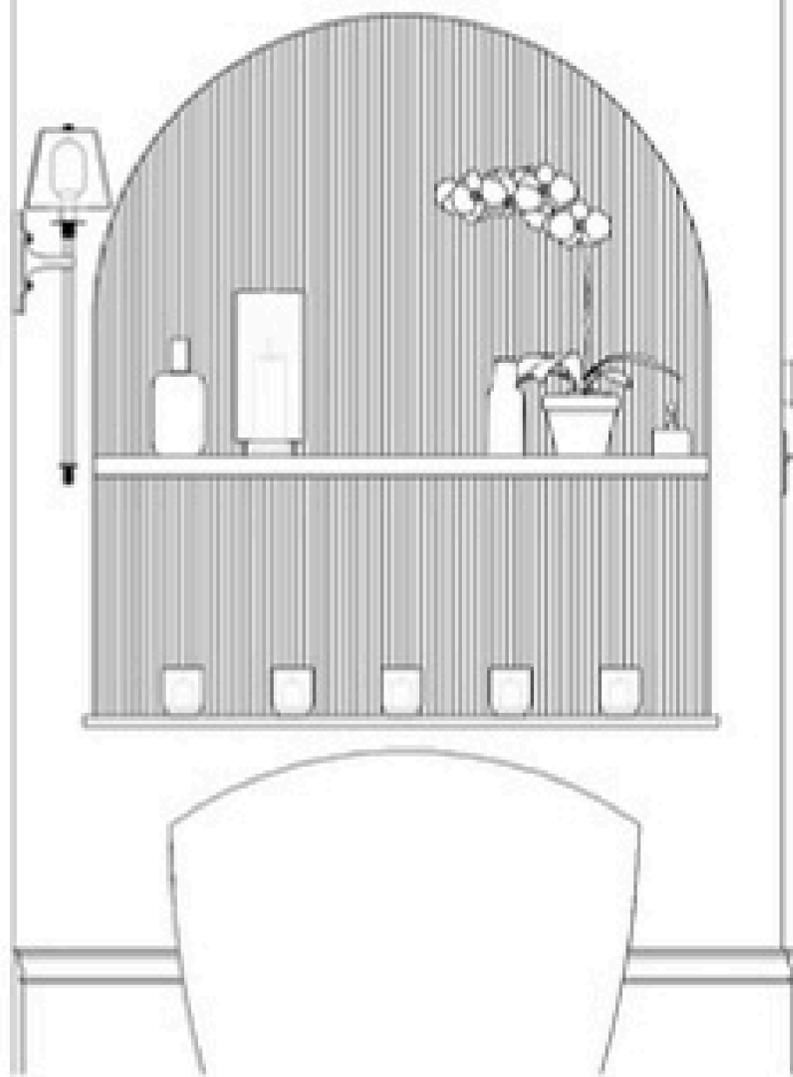
A fully customized system of inserts, adjustable shelves, and pull-outs was designed to accommodate the full range of the clients' cosmetics and self-care products, regardless of shape or size.

This meticulous planning resulted in a highly intuitive and clutter-free experience, providing a dedicated and perfectly suited space for every item and fulfilling the clients' desire for ultimate organization.



Earthy Escape

Niche Details



Earthy Escape

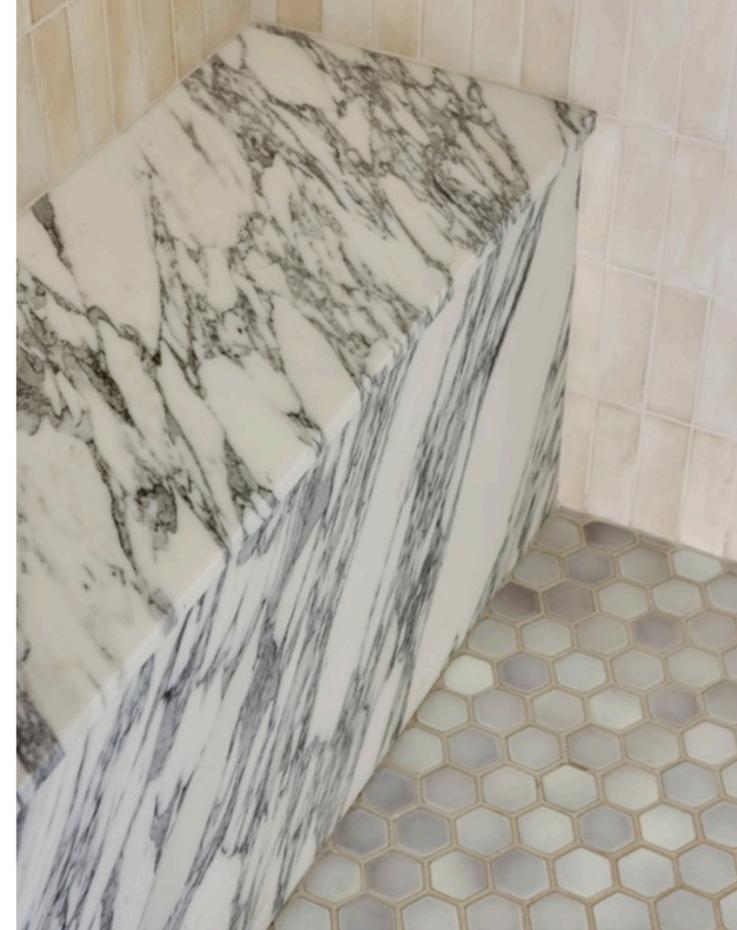
The arched niche above the tub was designed to be the bathroom's serene focal point and a functional feature for a spa-like experience. It provides the perfect display space for candles and bath amenities, reinforcing the room's purpose as a place to rest and rejuvenate. By repeating the vanity's fluted wood texture within the arch, we created a crucial material link that adds warmth, depth, and a sense of architectural intention, while the soft curve of the arch itself enhances the room's overall feeling of serenity.

This project's distinction lies in the deliberate attention to subtle details that infuse the space with a quiet sense of luxury.

A custom beaded edge on the marble countertop, for example, offers a unique and sophisticated alternative to a standard profile, fulfilling the clients' desire for bespoke character.

Each light fixture was selected not only to illuminate but to act as a piece of jewelry for the room—elegant and refined.

Even unexpected choices, like the intricate shower floor tile, were chosen to feel seamlessly integrated, creating a cohesive and deeply considered environment where no detail was left to chance.



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