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The design on the sketch resembled a butterfly with cloudlike patterns, and between its wings featured a platinum charm with scattered diamonds around it. The design was so powerful that it immediately resonated with Stella.

She flipped through the pages, and the subsequent sections had more details explaining the design.

“It’s beautiful,” Stella praised. “It’s much more beautiful than I had imagined.”

Maggie lowered her gaze and said softly, “I was inspired by some of the elements you mentioned.”

The butterfly symbolized a new life and beauty, while the clouds represented peacefulness. How Maggie merged these two elements was exactly what Stella wanted.

Moreover, the platinum piece in the middle could be carved into different patterns, adding a distinct touch and making each piece unique.

Stella lifted her gaze and said with a smile, “I only told you the themes I wanted, but you’re the one who managed to merge them. Let’s go with this design. Send it to the carver to create a sample and see how it turns out.”

However, Maggie did not move after taking the sketches back. Instead, she hesitated for a moment before asking softly, “Ms. Hall, is this design going to bear the name of the designer?”

“Of course, your name will be on this work. After all, you’re the one who created it.”

Stella thought that Maggie only asked that because she was caught in a plagiarism case previously, but she heard Maggie adding, “Ms. Hall, is it okay if we use another designer’s name instead? Tessa or Blake will do, too.”

Stella was taken aback, “It’s your design. Why would you want to use another person’s name?”

Maggie seemed to have something that she could not tell Stella. However, after hesitating for a moment, she said, "Ms. Hall, you may not be familiar with this industry since you've just taken over The Velvet, but I was involved in a court case in the past."

Then, she told Stella everything that had happened truthfully without omitting any details.

"I looked everywhere for a job after I was forced to resign. I knew that my former employer had blacklisted me in the industry because the designer who copied my work had tarnished the company's reputation and caused them significant losses. They would not allow me, who didn't understand the industry's rules, to have it good.

"I couldn't get a job, and the other party kept delaying the legal case. They were a large company with a dedicated legal team to deal with such matters, and I was fighting alone. It drained me both financially and emotionally. It also deeply affected my parents, and even their health deteriorated. After that, I figured that justice no longer meant anything to me, and all I needed was money.

"The Velvet pays me relatively well. However, they were worried that my past would tarnish the company's reputation, so I was never allowed to put my name on any of my designs here. Do you get it now?"

Maggie thought that Stella had randomly chosen her to deal with Barbara when she promoted her to the head of designer.

However, that was not the only reason. Instead, it was because Stella admired her work and even knew about her design from her earlier years. She did not pick Maggie for no reason.

Maggie was pleasantly surprised after learning about that. She had a passion for this industry and hoped to shine in it. However, she did not want to deceive Stella.

She had lost the lawsuit, and her former employer had not cleared her name in the industry either. She still had a bad reputation in the scene, and using her name posed a certain risk.

Stella chuckled upon hearing that, "I thought it was something serious. You were the victim, not the plagiarizes What's the problem with using your name?"

You spent so much effort into designing this. Are you going to be happy with someone else taking credit for it?"

Maggie lowered her gaze and said softly, "I'm exhausted after going through the lawsuit, and I dare not ask for much.

I just want to have a stable income."

"The more you give in, the more they will take advantage of you. You're working for me now; I have an obligation to protect you as long as you're not violating any professional ethics or the law. You should be the one taking credit for your own designs."

Maggie was overwhelmed, and her indifferent eyes lit up a little.

"I'll talk to the engraver about the details."

Stella nodded, "Make sure to keep the digital files and sketches somewhere safe. Don't publish them anywhere; we'll decide what to do after the sample comes out."

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"Sure."

After Maggie showed the craftsmen her design, they quickly processed them. Two days later, the sample was placed in front of Stella.

The sample looked even better than the sketches, and Stella took several photos of them. After all, she had two managers sorting out the existing customers who made repeated purchases within the past year before officially putting Maggie's design into production.

She spent most of her time preparing for the launch event. She was so busy that she did not even have the time to check her phone. When she eventually glanced at her phone, she noticed several missed calls from Keegan.

After some time, Keegan stopped calling her. He would either deliver some food to the store or come directly to pick her up and drive her back after having a meal together.

Keegan's intention was clear. He had no problem with Stella working so hard to make money, but she had to take care of her health. He would not let her sacrifice her well-being because of her work.

Some people may be born to be thoughtful, but Keegan has learned to be like this step by step.

Stella was eating the minced pork porridge in Keegan's car when she suddenly said, "Keegan Kane, let's get it done on

Valentine's Day this year."

Keegan, who was checking the guest list for her, paused momentarily upon hearing that. Then, he asked, "Get what done?"

Stella swallowed a mouthful of porridge, looked at him, and said, "Our marriage registration certificate."

Keegan was taken aback, "You're not joking, are you?"

Stella chuckled and teased him softly, "You're improving too quickly, and I'm afraid that someone else will take you away from me if I don't tie you down."

Keegan lowered his gaze and laughed, "Let's get the certificate tomorrow if you're really worried."

"No. I didn't feel like I was getting married the first time we went to get registered. We've got to make it special this time."

"Your birthday is coming soon. We can get the certificate on your birthday," Keegan suggested.

"In that case, I'll only get to celebrate either my birthday or our wedding anniversary on that day."

Keegan added, "Which also means twice the happiness."

Stella glared at him. "Which also means you'll only have to give me one gift. It's certainly more convenient for you."

Keegan was speechless.

He sighed, "Do you think I'm someone who would be stingy with my gifts for you? I just can't wait to marry you."

Stella chuckled softly, "I'm just joking with you. Everything you own will be mine after we get married. Why would I still care about the little gifts you give me?"

She just wanted to get the certificate with Keegan on a special day, like most couples. So, she could remind herself every year on that day that she only married him because she loved him.

A week later, Stella began promoting her business by sending gifts and invitations after all the preparations were ready.

Kayla had just returned to her home when Mark called out to her, "Kayla, there's a parcel for you. Take a look."

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"A parcel? I didn't order anything online."

Kayla put her jacket down and walked over. She picked up the parcel from the table, but there were no sender details. She opened it curiously and saw a beautifully wrapped gift box and an envelope.

"That's a nice box." Mark looked at Kayla, "Do you have a new boyfriend?"

"Could I possibly hide having a boyfriend from you?"

Kayla opened the envelope. There was an invitation card and a hand-drawn sketch inside.

She read the invitation card and immediately knew who had sent her this parcel.

The Velvet was going to organize a new product launch event, and the items in the gift box were specially prepared for their existing customers as a token of appreciation, hoping they would attend the event.

On the other hand, the sketch was the design of the jewelry she had ordered previously.

She was very surprised when Stella suddenly left that day.

She had initially thought it was just a part of Stella's strategy. But unexpectedly, the deposit she had paid was refunded to her account the next day.

Stella had not appeared before her again since that day. Instead, she would only send some fashion magazines to her every week.

Kayla felt somewhat awkward because she had not actually made up her mind when she said those things to Stella previously. She was not expecting Stella to refund her deposit so promptly at all.

So, she did not bother to read any of the magazines Stella sent her. She just left them in the living room until one day when her relatives' kid came over and tore the magazines apart one day. It was only then she saw what was inside.

The pages were marked and thoughtfully labeled with fashion recommendations that Stella had specially prepared for her.

Regardless of whether Stella genuinely wanted to be her friend or simply wanted to earn her money, Kayla admired Stella's attention to detail.

However, Stella had refunded her deposit, leaving her no reason or excuse to visit The Velvet anymore.

She would never expect Stella to send her this invitation and even have someone redesign the jewelry she ordered.

Kayla felt a little conflicted.

However, Mark was totally unaware of what Kayla was thinking. He opened the box and was surprised by what he saw, "Kayla, is this the jewelry you just bought?"

Kayla turned her head and was instantly captivated by the butterfly.

She took the box over and carefully picked up the necklace from inside before examining it closely.

Initially, she thought the gift mentioned in the envelope would be some worthless trinkets, but she was surprised to see how beautifully designed it was.

Mark said, "What you ordered this time is so much more beautiful than the previous ones. You should visit this store more often."

After a long pause, Kayla pursed her lips and said, "Dad, can I ask you something?"

"Of course."

Then, Kayla told Mark about everything that had happened recently.

After that, she added, "I might consider becoming friends with her if she didn't own The Velvet. However, I know that she's only doing all this for the sake of her business. I don't know if I should go to this event."

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Mark smiled upon hearing that, "We should judge a person based on their actions rather than their motives. Nobody is perfect in this world. Whether she wants to earn money from you or be your friend, she hasn't done anything to harm you. In fact, she has been helping you. So, what's the point of dwelling on these details?"

"Would you not buy anything from her if she were really your friend? Shouldn't it give you another reason to support her business if that's the case? Your mindset now is contradictory."

"You don't have to worry too much about her intentions."

Just attend the event if you feel like it. She hasn't threatened you to go, right? Why are you overthinking it?"

Kayla paused. Suddenly, she felt more at ease.

On the day of The Velvet's launch event, Wenham purposely rearranged his schedule to attend.

He had heard about The Velvet's recent sales performance and was concerned about his daughter's hardships in running her business. He even asked Stella if she needed any help, and he could secretly assist her.

However, Stella was confident and insisted that he should stay out of her business.

Wenham could buy all the leftover goods, and The Velvet would survive for at least a few more months. However, that

would be pointless. It would also be embarrassing for Stella if people found out.

Although Stella declined his offer, Wenham figured that he should still be there to show his support for her first business endeavor as a father. So, he also contacted some of his close friends and invited them to the event.

As a result, Stella saw plenty of prominent figures in the business world attending the event before it was even started. She was shocked.

“What’s my dad thinking?” Stella complained to Keegan backstage, “My target audience is wealthy women and rich girls, yet he invited a bunch of men. What’s even worse is that none of them brought their wife.”

“Uncle Wenham probably didn’t think much of it,” Keegan said.

Just as they were chatting, Vermont brought Felicity backstage, too.

“Stella, the gift you prepared for your customers is beautiful. Why didn’t you make one for my pretty girlfriend?”

Felicity nudged him with her elbow, “Do you ever stop talking?”

Stella smiled, “Of course, how could I forget about Felicity? I didn’t give you one because I was worried about the design being leaked. I’ll give it to you once the event ends later.”

“Did you hear that? You should stop trying to sabotage our relationship. Stella will never forget about me.”

“Yes, yes, yes. She’s your best friend, am I right?” Vermont teased Felicity before he continued, “Stella, there are so many people here. Your marketing team did a pretty good job.”

Stella said, “Most of them are probably here because of my family’s influence. It’s unsure how many of them will be our actual customers.”

Keegan held her hand and said, “You’ve got to be confident in your product.”

A bright smile appeared on Stella’s face, “I’m very confident.”

The event began, and Stella led her team to the seats in the front row.

The emcee delivered the opening speech, followed by Chris and the design team taking the stage to explain the event's theme.

Everything was going according to plan. When the images of the new products were displayed on the screen, Stella observed the reactions of those around her. She could tell that many were interested in the product line, and some were even taking photos with their phones.

Stella felt less worried. The designers on stage gradually relaxed as they confidently talked about their creations and shared their design philosophies.

When it was Maggie's turn, she clenched her hands nervously as the screen showed her design for the tenthanniversary commemorative gift.

She grabbed the mic and introduced it, "This is the tenthanniversary commemorative gift we came up with. Its name is Rebirth. We chose the butterfly as the main theme because..."

Suddenly, a voice from the audience interrupted Maggie's presentation, "Are you the one who designed this? Our company just launched a new necklace from the 'Dancing Butterfly' series, which looks almost identical. Are you copying it, or is this merely an inspiration?"