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Tiffany and Max Solve a Mystery sample
NOT FOR SALE

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Tiffany and Max Solve a Mystery
Copyright © 2024 by I Talk You Talk Press
ISBN: 978-4-910971-24-7
Publisher: I Talk You Talk Press

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Chapter One

Max Lambert is in the university café. He is waiting for his girlfriend. Her name is Tiffany, but Max always calls her Tiff. Max is a student. He's studying computer science. He's very smart. Tiffany is also a university student.

Where's Tiff? he thinks. *She's late. I have a class in twenty minutes. I hope she comes soon.*

Max's phone rings. *Maybe Tiff is calling me.* He looks at his phone. *No. It's my mother. Why does she want to talk to me?* He answers his phone.

"Hi Mom," says Max.

"Max! Max! You must come to dinner tonight!" His mother sounds very excited.

"But it's Tuesday. We always have family dinner on Sunday," says Max.

"Yes. I know. But please come tonight. Owen has wonderful news. Bring Tiffany. Come at six thirty pm. Don't be late."

His mother hangs up. Max looks at his phone.

Tiffany runs into the café. "Sorry I'm late. The teacher talked and talked and talked."

"It's OK," smiles Max. "I have to go soon, but are you free tonight?"

"Yes," says Tiffany. "Why?"

"My mother called. She said, 'Please come here tonight. Owen has wonderful news. Bring Tiffany. Come at six thirty pm'".

"What kind of news?" asks Tiffany.

"I don't know. But my mother was very excited. I'll come to your apartment at six o'clock." Max looks at his phone. "I have to go now. See you tonight."

Chapter Two

That evening, Max rides his bicycle to Tiffany's apartment. She is waiting outside for him. Tiffany takes her bicycle from the bicycle shed and they ride to Max's parents' house.

When they walk inside, Max is very surprised. There is a bottle of champagne and candles on the table. Max's mother is smiling. She is wearing a party dress. Max's father is there too. He is wearing jeans and a T-shirt.

"Come in! Come in!" shouts Max's mother. "I'm so excited!"

Tiffany and Max see Owen. He's smiling too. There's a young dark-haired woman standing next to him.

Mrs Lambert pours champagne for everyone.

"Now Owen," she says. "Tell Max and Tiffany your wonderful news!"

Owen's face is red. "First," he says. "This is my girlfriend, Marissa. Marissa. Please meet my brother Max, and Tiffany."

Tiffany and Max say "Hi, Marissa. Nice to meet you."

Then Max asks, "So what is the wonderful news?"

"I got a new job. It's a very good job. It's in Hawaii."

"That's great!" says Max. "Well done!"

"Thank you," says Owen. "But I don't want to go to Hawaii without Marissa. So I asked Marissa to marry me, and she said 'yes!'"

Mrs Lambert starts talking. "We're going to have a wedding! I'm so excited! Owen must start his job in Hawaii in four weeks. Marissa and Owen will get married before they go. We have very little time to plan the wedding. Drink your champagne," she shouts. "We have a lot of planning to do."

Mr Lambert says, "Why don't we all sit down?"

"Where will you get married?" asks Tiffany.

"In this town," says Marissa. "I come from San Francisco. There is only a little time. So the wedding will be here."

"We will decide everything tonight!" says Mrs Lambert. "I have made a list."

She takes out a long list.

"It will be nice to have the wedding at Honeysuckle – they do lovely weddings. We have to pick a date and a time and contact them. We will ask 'Can you do the wedding on that day and at that time?' Honeysuckle will want to know the number of guests," says Mrs Lambert.

“Can you make a list?” she asks Marissa.

“My mother will come,” says Marissa. “No one else. But please invite as many people as you like.”

Mr Lambert drinks his glass of champagne very quickly. “Alicia,” he says to his wife. “Are we going to eat dinner tonight? Are you going to cook?”

“Oh, Don,” says Mrs Lambert. “Everything is in the kitchen, but I am too excited to think about food.”

Max stands up. “It’s OK, Mom,” he says. “Tiff and I will cook.”

Tiffany and Max go to the kitchen.

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