

Timeless

By Rachel Loveday

Life in a shop window is both boring and humiliating. All I do is sit there all day with exceedingly bright lights on my face for the world to see. Men tend to admire the bigger watches, they want to wear one that appears “manly”, the women admire the gold, slender watches with their boyfriends and husbands, hoping that he’ll take the hint and buy it for her and children just like to tap the windows.

No one was ever interested in me; the jeweller would always knock the wind out of me with his rough, dry hands when he would gently pick up the “wanted watches.”

And then Gina came along, she is the most beautiful woman I had ever seen at the window. She has long, straight brown hair, chocolate brown eyes, pouty pink lips and perfect teeth, she was the only person who had smiled at me and she was interested in me! I found out her name when she swiped her credit card to pay for me before the jeweller closed my box.

I don’t know how long I was in my box for, but when it was opened again all I could see was this old man with big glasses, a magnifying glass over one of his eyes and various metal tools-an engraver.

That was four weeks ago.

It’s Christmas Eve now, I know this because Gina took me out for one last “inspection” and I saw the huge, decorated tree and the Christmas Eve newscast on the television when she rotated me to look at my engraving. I see a smile on her face and excitement in her eyes when she puts me back in my box.

I can hear rustling nearby, I can feel weight on the sides of my box and I’m lifted up slightly a few times-Gina must be wrapping me up to put under the tree. I feel the weight again as I’m elevated into the air again and Gina gently puts me down, I assume I’m under the tree, I don’t know why she put me here, I got a glimpse at the other “presents” when she was inspecting me, they are at least twice as big as me. Why not just put me on the counter that would be more convenient.

I can hear voices close by, but it’s not Gina’s voice and she lives alone at the moment. And there are at least three or four of them;

“God it’s hot in here!”

“I’m so sick of being in this damn box!”

“This damn wrapping paper is suffocating me!”

“Why the hell would she use so much tape!?”

Great, I'm stuck with them all night, I hope this guy likes me, he better, engraving hurts like hell.

The first thing I hear on Christmas morning is footsteps-one set coming from about five feet away, they're quiet and slow and the other set are much more audible, fast and sound a bit more musical-it must be Gina coming down the stairs.

I hear excited screams, then silence and two voices.

"I've missed you so much!" Gina said.

"Me too!"

They have a brief conversation, which is mostly muffled, then they start to come closer, Gina picks me up off the floor.

"I can open my present later honey." A deep voice says, it must be him.

"No, you have to open it now!"

"Okay."

He holds me with one hand and unwraps me with the other, but doesn't open me up yet. Come on, I'm sick of living in the dark!

"This is a Rolex!"

"Yes it is, are you going to open it or not?"

He delicately lifts the lid of my box, his jaw drops when he sees me and then he smiles. He has perfect teeth too and dark brown hair, but blue eyes instead of brown, they compliment his green army uniform. His name badge is hard to read but I can make it out; "SCHIFFER."

"This is great! I love it!"

"That's great honey, but that's not all...Turn it over, it's engraved."

Schiffer gently turns me over, as he does I see Gina get down on her knees...correction, down on one knee.

"*Marry me, my soldier.*" Jonathon reads aloud.

Gina hasn't asked yet and she has already burst into tears and she's not very good at keeping her composure.

"Jonathon Michael Schiffer, my soldier, my sweetheart. Will you marry me?"

I don't hear anything out of Jonathon. Gina and I are both thinking the same thing, "Please say something..."

"Of course I will!"

Gina screams with excitement and jumps back onto her feet. Jonathon puts me on his right wrist; finally I'm out of that damn box! The next thing I know Gina's long hair is smothering me and I can feel her earlobe on the side of my face-Jonathon's kissing her.

I sat in that shop window for ages, no one wanted me and not only did Gina want me, but she had me declare her love for her boyfriend and propose to him at Christmas!!!

I can't believe she chose me.