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Everything Objects

Project one

The Ring

In my jewelry collection, my favorite piece is a wire ring from Tiffany. The ring is made out of white gold, with diamonds attached to the signature double T design. The ring was given to me as my 18th birthday present to welcome me into adulthood, and recognize my achievement of successfully graduating from high school. The ring is not extremely expensive in terms of price, and the design is not particularly unique or remarkable in comparison to some of my other rings, yet the ring has special place in my heart because of its incomparable sentimental value.

I have always been rather close to my mom as I was growing up. As an accomplished businesswoman who is constantly busy, she has found the perfect balance between family and work, and never failed to be an attentive and responsible mother. Even after my younger brother was born, when she had to redistribute her attention and energy that were reserved solely for me before, now towards my brother, I have never felt ignored.

I left my family and come to the States for high school. The beginning was extremely tough, because of loneliness, homesickness, and the language and cultural barrier that every newcomer would have to face. First time living away from my family in a foreign country, I experienced mental breakdowns from time to time. And my solution would be to call mom, even when it is in the middle of the night, and complain, whine, and perhaps ask for her help. I know she would always pick up the phone if she can, listen carefully, console me and offer her advice.

As months passed by, I become more accustomed to the life here. I grew more independent and positive, and tended not to experience mental breakdowns as often as before. When I encounter difficulties, I learned to calm down first, think, and try to manage through on my own. And as a result, I started texting her more than calling. My mom was, of course, glad to see me grow up, even though such maturity could suggest that I am leaving her and entering a bigger world.

My whole family showed up for my graduation, and I was surprised enough to see both of my parents giving up work and flying over to the other side of the world to attend a ceremony. But my mom further surprised me when she took out a tiffany-blue-colored box and asked me to untie the ribbon. Without taking my measurement, she has purchased the right size of the ring for me. I couldn’t say a word when I put the ring on, because I have come to realize that, even though we don’t talk as much as we used to anymore and only got to spend time together twice a year during my holidays, she still thinks about me all the time, and remembers everything about me.

As soon as I receive the gift, I put it on. In the beginning, I would still take it off when I go to sleep. But I gradually grew used to it, and started wearing it all the time. Whenever I look at the ring, I feel safe, because it is more than a ring to me. It contains the love, affection and a promise from a mother to her daughter. The ring constantly reminds me that, no matter how physically apart we are, she will always be there for me when I need her. Her love and support, like the ring, have become an inseparable part of my life.