

## Love by Design by Kieran McGovern

### Chapter One - Worksheet

One rainy afternoon a young woman came into the library. Tom looked up from the **sketch** he was working on.

'Can I help?' he said

The young woman did not seem to hear him. She continued **staring** out at the rain. With her long black double buttoned raincoat, she looked very elegant and glamorous. Perhaps she's French, Tom thought hopefully

It was February 14, Valentine's Day. Was she thinking about a boy?

Turning the page of his sketchbook, Tom started a new drawing. The soft sound of pencil on paper whispered under the hissing of the rain.

Then a voice said. 'What are you doing?'

Startled, Tom looked up. The girl was now looking across at him. 'Oh, nothing,' he said. 'Just a sketch.'

'Of me?' The voice was not French but local.

Younger than he expected, too. Closer to his own age.

"You were drawing me without my **permission**?"

Tom swallowed hard. 'It's nothing **weird**,' he said, as the girl walked towards him..

'Can I see?' she said, in a firm voice.

'Well, it's very rough and -'

Her hand extended towards him. 'Just show me, please.'

Reluctantly, he passed the sketch to her.

She peered intensely at the **faint** pencil drawing 'This is what you think I look like?

'It's just a **rough** sketch,' said Tom.

Her hard expression softened. 'I wish I could draw like this,' she said. 'It would really help with my designs.'

'Designs?'

'Yes, I make my own clothes. Like this coat.'

'Wow!' said Tom. 'It looks fantastic. Listen -'



He was just about to say, *I can show you how to draw if you like* when the girl's mobile rang. She reached into her pocket and answered it. As she did so, she turned away and began moving towards the door.

'Ok, I'm coming,' she said. 'I'll be there soon.'

Reaching the exit, the girl turned and briefly waved. Then she disappeared into what was now bright sunlight.

Tom knew he was in love. And he didn't even know her name.

---

### Quick Check: True or false?

1. It is a cold afternoon.
  2. Tom is writing his diary
  3. Tom asks to draw the young woman.
  4. The young woman wants to see Tom's drawing
  5. Tom takes a telephone call.
- 

### Finding Information

Write down two things you learn about

- a) Tom
  - b) The young woman
- 

### Vocabulary

Match these definitions of words in bold in the text

- I. light/ not strong
- II. strange, unusual, unsettling
- III. quick drawing in pencil
- IV. approximate, in outline
- V. speak in a very soft voice
- VI. agreement
- VII. less hard or severe
- VIII. expanded to full length

**design \* softened \* weird \* sketch \* whisper \* faint \* extended \* rough \* permission**

---

### Writing Extension Activity (50-100 words) *Answer one of these questions*

1. You are either Tom or the young woman. Write a diary entry for your first meeting.
2. 'Ok, I'm coming,' she said. 'I'll be there soon.' Write a diary entry about this. Imagine who the girl is talking to. Where does he want her to go? Why?