A Summer Sweet Story
Stage 1
サンベーカリー
SUN BAKERY
Dan's English Student Original Story

Oxford bookworms Library シリーズ **Stage**1 レベル

Headwords:300 語

Word Count:3000 語前後

Chapter 1: A Hot Summer Morning

It is August. The weather is very hot. Luca is a high school student. He is seventeen years old. He is in his second year.

Luca has a big problem. He does not know his future. His teacher says, "Luca, what do you want to do after high school? Do you want to go to university? Do you want to get a job?"

Luca always says, "I don't know." He thinks about it every day, but he cannot find an answer. He feels tired.

"I need to work this summer," Luca thinks. "I need to save some money and clear my mind."

So, Luca finds a part-time job. It is at a small bakery in his town. The name of the bakery is "Sun Bakery." It is an old shop, but it smells very good. Every morning, sweet bread and hot coffee make people happy.

On his first day, Luca wears a white apron. He is nervous. He does not know how to talk to customers.

The manager, an old man named Mr. Brown, smiles at him. "Don't worry, Luca. Just be polite and smile."

Luca nods. "I will try my best."

Chapter 2: Meeting at the Bakery

It is the third day of Luca's job. The bakery is very busy in the morning. People want fresh bread for breakfast.

Luca is cleaning the tables. Suddenly, the front door opens. A college student comes in. Her name is Hana. She has long black hair and a bright smile. She is twenty years old. She goes to a university in the next town.

Hana comes to the bakery every Tuesday and Thursday. She always buys a chocolate croissant and a cup of tea.

Mr. Brown says, "Hana, this is Luca. He is a high school student. He is working here for the summer."

Hana looks at Luca and smiles. "Hello, Luca. Nice to meet you. I am Hana."

Luca's face turns red. He is shy. "Hello, Hana. Nice to meet you, too."

Hana sits near the window. She opens a big book and starts to read. She looks very smart and cool. Luca looks at her from behind the counter. He thinks, "She is a college student. She knows what she wants to do. She looks so relaxed."

Later, Hana walks to the counter to pay. Luca is there.

Hana looks at his name tag. "Luca, what grade are you in?"

"I am in the second year of high school," Luca answers quietly.

"High school! That is a fun time," Hana says. "Do you enjoy your school life?"

Luca looks down at the table. "Not really... I am worried about my future. I don't know what to study or what job to get. Everyone asks me, but I have no answer."

Hana listens to him carefully. She does not laugh. She says, "That is okay, Luca. It is normal to worry. You have a lot of time to attempt new things."

Her words make Luca feel warm inside.

Chapter 3: Working Together

Days pass. August is very hot, but Luca enjoys going to the bakery. He wants to see Hana.

Every time Hana comes, they talk for a little bit. Hana tells him about university life. She talks about her classes, her friends, and her favorite books.

"University is interesting," Hana says one day. "You can study many things. You can choose what you really like. But first, you need to find your passion."

"My passion..." Luca repeats the word. "I don't know if I have one."

"Everyone has something," Hana says gently. She gives him an encouraging look. "You just need to look inside yourself. Don't rush."

One afternoon, the bakery is very quiet. Mr. Brown goes to the back room to make more bread. Luca is wiping the counter. Hana is sitting at her usual table.

Suddenly, Hana drops her pen. It rolls across the floor and stops near Luca’s shoes. Luca picks it up and walks over to her table.

"Here is your pen, Hana."

"Thank you, Luca," she says. She looks up at him. "You are working very hard this summer. I think you are a very kind person. Any place would be lucky to have you in the future."

Luca feels his heart beat fast. He is very happy. He wants to say something cool, but he only says, "Thank you, Hana. Your words really support me."

Hana smiles warmly. "I am glad. Let's talk more tomorrow."

Chapter 4: A Clear Choice

The summer vacation is coming to an end. There is only one week left.

Luca is standing behind the counter, thinking about Hana's words. "You just need to look inside yourself."

He thinks about his days at the bakery. He likes talking to customers. He likes making people smile with good food and a clean shop. He likes helping Mr. Brown.

"Wait," Luca thinks. "I like talking to people. I like making people happy. Maybe... maybe I want to work in a hotel, or a restaurant, or maybe even run a shop like this one day!"

For the first time in his life, a clear picture of his future appears in his mind. He is not lost anymore. He has a dream. He wants to study business and communication at a university so he can open his own café in the future.

The door opens. It is Hana. She walks to the counter, but today she does not have her big book. She looks a little nervous.

"Hello, Luca," Hana says.

"Hello, Hana!" Luca says with a big smile. His voice is full of energy.

Hana looks surprised. "You look very happy today, Luca. Did something good happen?"

"Yes!" Luca says. "Because of you, I made a big decision. I want to go to university and study business. I want to have my own shop in the future. I finally found my goal!"

Hana’s eyes go wide, and then she smiles a very bright, beautiful smile. "That is wonderful, Luca! I knew you could do it. I am so proud of you."

Chapter 5: A New Beginning

It is the last day of August. The hot summer wind is blowing, but autumn is coming soon.

It is Luca's last day at the bakery. He works hard from morning to afternoon. Mr. Brown gives him a big box of chocolate croissants as a present.

"Thank you for everything, Luca," Mr. Brown says. "You are a great worker."

"Thank you, Mr. Brown. I learned a lot," Luca replies.

In the afternoon, Hana comes into the bakery. She walks straight to the counter. She is holding a small paper bag.

"Luca, congratulations on finishing your summer job," Hana says, handing him the bag. "And congratulations on finding your dream."

Luca opens the bag. Inside, there is a blue notebook and a nice pen.

"Use this for your studies," Hana says softly. "And... university starts for me next week, too. But my university is not far from here. If you ever need help with your studies, or... if you just want to talk..."

Hana stops. She looks down, and her cheeks turn a little pink.

Luca looks at her, and his heart beats very fast. He feels a sweet, warm feeling in his chest. This is not just about his future studies. This is the start of something special between them.

Luca smiles, his eyes shining bright. "Thank you, Hana. I would love to talk with you again soon. Let's meet next week—not as a worker and a customer, but just as... us."

Hana looks up and smiles back. "I would like that very much, Luca."

Outside, the sun is shining, and Luca's new future is just beginning.