

Lazily 601

Chapter 601: Expect the Unexpected

"Ladies and Gents, you are not here to kill each other so relax. We won't allow you to die. At least not now. In a while, you will have your first task. You can die then."

"" Uhhh Gabi looked at Mr. Ma. He had a serious expression on his face yet, his eyes were sparkling with mischief. For some reason, Gabi felt something foreboding as she watched this man.

"Alright. First task." Ma Ping clapped his hands and almost immediately, the world started shaking. "It's not an earthquake. Relax. As I said, I will only let you die by fighting later. Not because of an earthquake."

So, that is supposed to make them feel better?

"In this task, you can use whatever weapon that you have with you. Daggers, needles, swords, guns. Whatever." Ma Ping held his hand towards the platform in front of them. Each of the platforms looked like concrete walls. However, its width and height were different. Some were only about as tall and as thin as Gabi while the others had at least six feet in width and seven feet in height. Some were really thin with only a foot in width but ten feet in height. They looked like towers were some looked like walls.

She immediately wondered if this was a maze. Was it a maze full of traps?

"Test is you have to reach the other side of the plane." Ma Ping gestured towards the concrete walls. "Without dying, of course."

There he goes again, mumbling about death. Was it really that hard to run around a maze?

Of course, Gabi's thoughts soon changed when someone approached the concrete walls.

ZIP

ZAP

Laser?

Are those lasers?

Her eyes widened at the sudden appearance of the reddish laser that hit the bald person who ran towards the concrete walls. It didn't pierce his skin but that man's skin was burnt black.

It must have been too painful as the man was on the floor crying in pain.

"Ah, I forgot about those laser beams. It won't kill you immediately." Ma Ping said. He was clearly enjoying their horrified expressions. "One or two hits won't kill you. It would only burn your skin. However, it hit your head, I can't assure you that you will not end up blind or worse dead. Hahahaha!"

Ma Ping started laughing. What was so amusing?

However, now Gabi realized that this man wasn't kidding about death and injuries. Fighting amongst themselves was useless. They needed to save their strengths for the real battle and that is the test.

This was only the first test and the intensity was already like this.

"The first three people that could reach the other end will be rewarded with points. Of course, I am not telling you how much. You will only know when you reach the other side." With that, Ma Ping waved and turned around. "I will see you on the other end. Goodluck. Keep your injuries minimal or you will have a hard time on the second day."

Damn.

That's the only thing that she could say.

This place was indeed called Tartarus because it was hell! Not just their point system also the way that they handle challenges.

Gabi looked at the laser beams. Because of her enhanced vision, she could clearly see that those lasers are following a rhythmic pattern.

Eighteen.

Gabi was counting silently and realized that there were eighteen of the laser. Now, she needed to determine if other lasers can only be activated by some sort of other mechanisms.

"Let's go! The point this time should be good!" Gabi heard Lu Tingting. She then watched as the giant of a man ran towards the first concrete wall. Just as Gabi expected, a laser beam immediately fired towards his way.

However, the man was clearly here because of his skills. Despite his size, he easily avoided the laser and used the concrete to cover himself from the next laser.

Seeing that Lu Tingting successfully reach the first concrete, the others looked at each other before they followed the man. About ten people followed, each of them was able to avoid the laser beam using different techniques. Someone was tumbling like a gymnast while someone easily dodged it by using some fancy moves like a one-hand stand and a split.

Damn.

Another curse escaped her lips. These people looked really agile and experienced in combat. After those ten people reached the first concrete, another group of people followed. And just like the others, they also used some fancy moves to avoid the beams.

A bead of sweat appeared on Gabi's forehead. She let out a loud sigh as her heart started to beat faster. She was nervous, she could feel her palms start to sweat. She eyed the laser beams and tried to gauge how painful it would be to be hit by those beams.

However, she had no choice.

She needed to run.

However, before Gabi could take a step forward, someone from the batch that followed Lu Tingting let out a scream.

Another laser beam!

This time it wasn't red.

It was blue!

"Ah I forgot to say." Ma Ping's loud voice echoed inside the space. Clearly, he was watching them from somewhere. "The red ones would burn your skin. The blue ones would do something worse. I heard it could cut off a finger and cut your flesh. It's going to be painful. But it won't kill you. Unless of course it would hit your head."

Hah! This man

Gabi furrowed.

Ma Ping didn't tell them everything earlier. He waited for one of them to be hit by another laser beam before he said something. It was like, he was teaching them a lesson as they go.

Expect the unexpected.

Just because you already know the terrain and the enemy, doesn't mean that you should be complacent. You should be careful and still act with vigilance. And most importantly, always prepare for the worse.

Gabi inhaled sharply. A new determination appeared in her eyes.

Then she took her first step towards the first concrete.

Chapter 602: The Lunatic Mother and Son

Just as Gabi expected, the lasers were following a pattern. In fact, she could see it follow a set of rhythms. It was as if it was following to a tune! A piece of music! Gabi looked at the few people who were still hiding not far away from her. She was already halfway through the concrete when another laser beam appeared. This time, it was green.

Luckily, no one was hit. However, the concrete that was hit by the laser beams suffered a huge crack in the middle. The ones that hit the floor created an enormous hole. As if a lightning bolt just hit it.

This time, Ma Ping explained that this laser beam can cut someone's head with one hit.

Who would dare move after such an announcement?

These people were really trying to kill them!

Unlike Gabi, some of the people here worked hard to be accepted in this school. Now, this only made Gabi confused.

Why?

Why go to a place like this?

Perhaps they are desperate to get stronger, too?

Gabi bit her lower lips as she closed her eyes and started analyzing the movements of the beams earlier. She couldn't figure out something, one key, something that would enable her to solve this problem.

Problem!

That's right!

This looked like an equation!

Was it possible that she could predict the next movement just by solving this as a mathematical equation?

Gabi grew up inside that mansion for years. And her hobby? Naturally, it was reading and studying! She graduated ahead of her age because of her intellect! Because of her weak body, she thought she could help support Alfons just by being smart. And of course, she succeeded.

Her body used to be weak, but her mind was not. And most importantly. After whatever it was that Aden did, she felt that her brains had become sharper. She had become smarter!

Almost immediately, her mind started the computation. Her eyes soon widened. 'In .0097 seconds, the blue laser will hit to her west, three meters away from her.

BOOM

She was right?

This time, Gabi didn't feel her heart race. On the contrary, it was calm too calm, it felt weird. The feeling was foreign to her. Again, she started counting and this time she tested the red laser together with the blue laser.

According to her observation, there were about twenty-nine different lasers. Eighteen red, seven blue, and the rest were green.

Because of the intensity of the green laser, their numbers were obviously lesser than the other.

A smile suddenly rose on her face when she realized that she was right! Her computation had been correct. This was a big mathematical equation.

Now, she couldn't help but wonder who would do something like this. What kind of lunatic would use this type of problem to fire lasers? A bored one? Hmmm... definitely a crazy one!

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"Achoo! Someone must be thinking about me." Aden crossed his legs. "Anyway, you are here now because of some important things." He handed the file to the man across from him.

"Sigh you actually dared to summon a prince in this place."

"I am leaving. I have no time to visit you in the palace and it's bothersome. I don't want to see your father."

"Father dotes on you so much. He treats you better than he treats me. Why are you complaining like that?" the man who spoke had white long hair that was neatly tied in a ponytail behind him. His face wasn't particularly handsome. However, the glint in his eyes showed a different type of cunningness that not many people possess. He always had a kind on his lips that didn't reach his eyes.

Aden used to call this man the tricksters. Though he is only calling him this because of his appearance. Aden used to say that it looked like the Prince was a hooligan.

"Isn't this because I am smarter than you?" Aden said. "If I wasn't smart, do you think your father would treat me like this?"

"Anyway why are you leaving?"

"Because I don't want to see you?"

"Hey stop joking around. I thought you don't like to see Aunt Lyca?"

"Idiot, she is my mother. Who told you that I don't want to see her?"

"Ah am I wrong?" The man lifted his eyebrow before he chuckled and laughed. "Aunt Lyca has always been a scary woman. I just thought you were scared of her."

"Why do you always tell me that I am scared? When, in fact you are the one who felt intimidated by my mother?" Aden argued. Weak people easily get intimidated by his mother. Obviously, he wasn't one of those weak people. "I am doing something important."

"Oh?? Was it Sister Aya?"

"No. Aya's good."

"Then is Aunt Lyca sick?"

"She won't get sick even if she wanted to."

"How could you say something like that to your own mother?"

"It's true!"

"Alright, you should stop changing the topic this time. Why are you leaving the country?"

"Experiments."

The man's expression immediately turned serious. However, this time, he didn't ask any more questions. He open the files and started reading. "The Sealey's huh"

"I want them destroyed."

"The evidence is sufficient. However, the Sealey's are attacking the Ren Family. If we intervened"

Aden squinted. "I can do it on my own. But it would be very very messy. And your mother wouldn't like that."

The man immediately pursed his lips. He looked irritated. But what can he do? If Aden takes care of things, blood would surely flow the streets of this country. This man was lazy in dealing with his enemies, he wanted to end them as quickly as possible.

Right.

Just like his mother.

Aden Shen was definitely a lunatic.

"Alright I will take care of it. Their main branch had been doing some things behind the back of the crown. We needed to teach them a little lesson."

"Good. Now as reward here take it."

"What's this, a magic potion?" he looked at the vial with green liquid and held it against the chandelier.

"Anti poison."

"You "

"One drop and you are safe from any venom or poison for a month. It's gonna last you one year."

Understanding flashed in the man's eyes. "Thank you. This is a precious gift. I will definitely take care of the Sealey Family!"

Chapter 603: Misunderstanding the Purpose

"Number one she wasn't the fastest." Ma Ping uttered when he saw the report of the first task. "She was third to the last and considering that the last two were injured, her result was not really something to be proud about."

"But she wasn't injured." His subordinate claimed. "In fact, she was the only one who wasn't injured."

"That's because she played it safe!" Ma Ping reasoned. "In this life, there is no playing it safe."

"But sir what's the use of finishing a mission and becoming first if you also lost your arm in the process?"

This made Ma Ping silent. He stared at his subordinate before his gaze drifted towards the result of the first test. All the trainees this time were injured. Some suffered minor burns, but all of them suffered! Everyone except Gabi. (Author's note: At this point, everyone is going to call Gabi, Leo. This is her fake name.)

Not even a minor scratch.

No, the woman avoided all laser beams. True. She was slow, but all of her movements were calculated. She would stop, look at the laser, then run to the next concrete. Her fast movements didn't really attract Ma Ping's attention. What he wanted to know is how was she able to pass the test without wounds?

This test was designed to injure everyone and make them weaker. However, Gabi didn't receive any injuries. Moreover, this person also topped the test. She already has an enormous advantage when it comes to points. Now, she was the only one who didn't receive any injuries.

"But how?" Was it just cowardice that saved her?

No. That's impossible. The madam recommended this woman herself! There's no way that she was a coward! If Ma Ping was right, Lyca already tested Gabi's courage. The only reason why Gabi is here is that she passed that test!

So how come she wasn't injured?

"Play the video again." Ma Ping instructed. His subordinate immediately complied. Then, for the third time, they watched Gabi from all angles of the camera. "She was mumbling about something." What could it be? Was she trying to predict the laser beams?

"Sir, I think she is predicting the laser beams."

"How is that possible?" Ma Ping said. Even he doesn't know how to predict the movements of the beam.

"But isn't that the only explanation how she was able to avoid all laser? Look! Every time a beam targeted a place far away from her, she moves! Look there it is again!"

The three people inside Ma Ping's office watched as Gabi made her way across the concrete walls. They zoomed in and out and in and out and in and out. Soon they realized that she was indeed mumbling something.

"Call her here."

"Sir?"

"I wanted to know how she was able to predict the laser beams. Even I don't know that there's a way to predict them!" How could a mere homeless predict the laser beams? Did Madam Lyca stumble upon a rare genius?

Tomorrow, they will announce the result of the entrance exam. On that day, the trainees will also start challenging other people, including the top placer. However, this time, the top one didn't receive any injuries. So, other people might not challenge her. But what if she challenges other people?

Those laser burns were not big, but they were really designed to cause a second-degree burn. Meaning, it would be quite painful. In fact, a lot of people might not have the ability to sleep tonight without any pain relievers.

While Ma Ping was silently thinking about his next actions, Gabi arrived and saluted.

"Take a seat."

"Yes, sir."

"This time, I want to congratulate you for passing the test." Ma Ping said.

"Thank you, sir."

"Do you understand why I am congratulating you even if you didn't receive any points?"

"Yes, sir."

"Good." Ma Ping nodded. He stared at Lyca's calm expression as he wondered if she already knew why he wanted to talk to her. "Let me be honest with you, Leo." Ma Ping leaned back. "The test was designed to hurt everyone."

She didn't miss the surprise on the woman's small face.

"Every test was designed to hurt everyone." Ma Ping continued. "The reason behind this matter is that we wanted to see everyone's performance despite injuries. Can they still fight while in pain? Can they still survive behind enemy lines? Each and everyone here was already considered the elite of the elites. However being an elite doesn't mean that they are going to live when they encounter someone unpredictable outside."

The woman looked confused. Ma Ping smiled inwardly. It seems that until now, this woman didn't know the purpose of this training facility. However, Gabi was able to suppress her curiosity. She waited for Ma Ping to finish his words. "Everyone is going to encounter someone better than them one day. There will always be a better fighter, a better thinker. When facing an enemy that is stronger and better than you, the key is always adaptability, flexibility. Can you still survive even if you are injured and your enemy is stronger than you? This training facility is a place that would train you how to survive despite all odds."

"Now, you can only imagine my surprise when someone actually finished the mission unscathed." He smiled. "I am not upset that you didn't get injured. However I am really curious how you were able to survive more than thirty laser beams without sustaining at least one burn?"

"I "

"I want an honest answer."

"Well I thought the test is going to test our computing skills."

Huh? This time, it was Ma Ping's turn to look clueless. What computing skills? Was there a misunderstanding somewhere? He looked at his subordinate behind Gabi, and the two of them shrugged as well. "Explain further."

Gabi gulped and met Ma Ping's eyes. "I thought that you were testing if we could predict the next target of the beams, so I used a simple formula to predict its next movement. "Seeing that everyone in the room turned silent, Gabi continued. "See I thought that all technology was based on a program. For example, a robot. A robot's movements were based on a program that was instilled inside them. If you program a robot to cut trees, then there would be a program for it to raise its arms, a program for it to swing it and cut the trees. I thought the lasers were the same. So I umm analyzed its movement."

Everyone in the office turned speechless. They stared at Gabi as if she was an alien. The three people inside were all fighters soldiers that Lyca personally trained. The only thing in their minds was how to survive and fight.

Who cares about programming?

They cared about tricking their opponents and defeating them!

"So you are saying that you were able to predict the movements of the laser beam by reverse programming?" Ma Ping asked after Gabi finished her explanations.

"Yes, sir."

"By using math?"

"Yes sir. And the probability."

"So you used a simple solution to check the probability of the movements of the laser beams and realized that they were all connected?"

"No sir. They were not connected. The reason why I was last is that they have different programs. Each of them."

"So you did it to all thirty-one laser beams?"

"There was only twenty-nine, sir. The other three were for bluffing purposes only."

Ma Ping blinked.

His subordinates blinked.

"Show me." Ma Ping immediately got up. How is this possible? Everyone here thought that the firing was random! If it was random, then how could she use math to predict it? In Ma Ping's mind, the programmed design by Madam Lyca and sir Aden isn't something that mere humans like them

could understand. Even the people from other countries thought that this technology was highly advanced and dangerous!

This technology was something that was created because Sir Aden loved robots so much. It was said that Sir Aden would one day create robots that could ruin buildings and fly. This weapon is only one of the weapons that the robot possesses.

"This way," one of Ma Ping's subordinates led them towards the control room of the first test.

"Leo, may I know if you know how to hack too?"

"No sir. But it's mostly math. I could learn it."

"Did you go to school while you were in Plaria?"

"No sir. I was homeless."

"I understand." Was it really possible that a homeless person would have good skin and a very brilliant mind? Ma Ping was curious about this woman's real background. "Alright we are here. Show us."

"Can you please give me a piece of paper?"

Seeing that no one is moving, Gabi added, "I could do it mentally, but I would rather show you a computation so you would see it."

"Ah go give her a piece of paper." Ma Ping immediately said. "Tell me when you're ready."

"Alright. We can start."

In the next few seconds, Ma Ping watched as Gabi predicted each and every laser's movement. From the reds to greens and blues. Though it would make her one to three minutes to predict the movement every time, Ma Ping was still fascinated by the fact that someone could actually predict the movement of a robot.

This is something that he needed to report to the Madam as soon as possible. It would be better to make the movement of the laser unpredictable too!

"Do you think we can make it unpredictable?"

"No sir."

"Why?"

"These are machines, sir."

"And?"

"Machines needed a program to work. Unless, of course, you will assign a person to shoot the laser randomly."

"I see."

"Tomorrow, the formal training would start. The call time is at three in the morning. You have to sleep by eight tonight."

Gabi nodded. Now she understood what he meant by being ready and surviving behind enemy lines.

"You can leave now."

Gabi immediately left. She needed to sleep and prepare for the training tomorrow. Moreover, they would also announce her name tomorrow. People would start challenging her. Or will they?

Gabi smiled when she thought of being the only one uninjured.

Isn't this an opportunity for her to challenge everyone while she was not injured?

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And just like that, the second day arrived.

At three in the morning, everyone was already in the assembly room. This room was different, as this one had chairs. At three am sharp, Ma Ping arrived with the two subordinates that he was with yesterday.

"You look horrible." Ma Ping smiled. "Just a slight burn and look at your faces. Are you really the elites? Or did you just get here because of your family's money?"

Gabi couldn't help but look at everyone else. Just as Ma Ping mentioned. Everyone had bags under their eyes. It was probably because of the burns. Moving around with burnt skin is really painful. As someone who didn't like pain, Gabi silently thank her brain for being smart enough to avoid those lasers.

"Oh? You look like you wanted to say something?" Ma Ping asked the one with a shaved head.

"No sir."

"Nah say it." Ma Ping said.

"I "

"Say it!"

"Sir. We didn't have much sleep because of our burns!" The man yelled. "We were given something to relieve the pain, but it wasn't enough and we were not allowed to have a second dose of the medicine."

"Ah then next time I would tell them not to give you pain relievers anymore."

". " Even Gabi felt a little worried because of that statement. No pain reliever? Isn't that too extreme? However, Ma Ping's words yesterday echoed in her head. He was right. This training facility was designed to teach them survival.

If you were alone in the wilderness, who would give you pain relievers? Who would tend to your wounds? Who would help you?

The answer is simple; No one!

This was the reality that Ma Ping wanted to teach them.

"Alright today we needed to run ten miles. It's not a lot, but this would increase every day." Ma Ping had that smile on his face again. Because of this, Gabi concluded that this training wasn't as simple as running ten miles.

Did they prepare another set of traps for this exercise?

"Ah also I want you to mind the altitude. We will have a realistic environment and this time, you will be running in a desert. Without water whatsoever."

Damn.

Gabi curse inwardly as she eyed the other people in the room.

Running in the middle of the desert without water and with a burnt skin would be very very painful.

Chapter 605: Gabi the Special Child

Just as Gabi expected, most people were not able to sustain the exercise. The lack of sleep, the lack of water, the humidity, the altitude, and their sweats that only worsen the condition of their wounds almost made everyone give up halfway.

Most girls collapsed and the rest just stopped running and laid on the desert.

It was torture for everyone except Gabi who didn't have any injuries on the first test. Dressed in black tank tops and equally black pants, Gabi was the first one who finished running this time. However, unlike the first test, this one didn't have any rewards. It was simply because this is considered an exercise and not a test.

"Eight am sharp!" Ma Ping shouted. "Everyone is here good. Good!" He smiled. But to everyone else, his smile looked really infuriating, as it looked like he was mocking their state. "After the run you will crawl."

Seeing everyone start to pale, Ma Ping added. "But first we need breakfast. Assemble here by ten in the morning for the next set of exercises. And you can also check the leaderboards right there for the current ranking of points. The challenges are going to start tonight. So the people who didn't have sleep. Just hoped that no one would challenge you."

With that, Ma Ping gestured them to leave and have breakfast at the canteen. Obviously, everyone turned towards the opposite direction to look at the leader boards instead. It is their chance to challenge the top spot and everyone was actually pretty excited to know who topped the entrance exam.

Leona?

"Leona? Who is Leona?" someone called out. Sadly for them, Gabi or Leona just arrived at the canteen. She already knew that she was the top one, so she wasn't so interested in the leader board. What she wanted to have right now was food.

She was starving!

She woke up really early and ran in a steep desert. She needed more energy if she wanted to survive in this place.

"Hey are you Leona?"

It was the woman with full breasts and cropped military haircut! Gabi examined the woman's appearance and realized that she had a bandage on her left and right arm. Just like Gabi, she was wearing a tank top, too. "Yes." She knew that this woman didn't check the leaderboards as she just followed Gabi towards the canteen. But how did she know her name if she didn't check the leaderboards?

"May I sit here?"

"You may," Gabi said.

"I'm called Miles. Can I call you Leo?"

"Alright." Gabi started eating. This time, she chose a lot of meat and she was determined to eat a lot. The woman sat opposite her and started eating her own food. Gabi expected her to ask more questions, but surprisingly, the woman stayed quiet. Just like Gabi, the woman would occasionally look at her, then lower her gaze to concentrate on the food.

"If you were wondering how I knew your name, it was because I heard the other teachers talk about you."

"Oh?"

"Last night. I couldn't sleep so I took a bath and heard a teacher mention your name."

Gabi nodded. It must be the teachers that she met, right?

"Is it true that you didn't receive any injuries?"

"True."

"Oh" Sensing Gabi's awkwardness. The woman stopped asking any more questions. After a few seconds, the other trainees also started arriving. This time, most of them already noticed that Gabi and Miles weren't there earlier. Obviously, they immediately knew that one of them was Leona. And since someone already knew Miles from her dorm, the answer to their questions was pretty obvious.

It was a good thing that they were not allowed to fight in public areas like the canteen or the bathroom, or the hallway.

"Hey " Suddenly, a woman with short hair sat next to Miles. "You are Leona, right? My name is Mara."

"Hey." Gabi nodded. Soon, another woman sat next to Gabi. This time, she introduced herself as Delia.

"I didn't think that a woman would top this year's entrance exam. And to think that you didn't sustain any injuries. It was indeed very surprising." Just like Miles, Mara and Delia had bandages too. "You already have an advantage because you didn't have an injury."

"Are you going to challenge anyone soon?"

"Are you going to challenge someone with injuries?" Delia asked. "Isn't that too you know it's like kicking someone while they were down."

Gabi nodded. Indeed. It was just like kicking someone when they were down.

"So you won't challenge anyone?" Mara asked again.

"Hmmm if I got injured." Gabi said. She then look at the two of them and smiled. "Are you not going to challenge me because you are scared to kick someone while they were down?"

"That "

"Cough cough we were just curious."

"She's right. Just curious. Hehe"

"We are girls. We should stick together, right?"

"Stick together" Gabi looked at the two people. She didn't know why they were suddenly acting so friendly, but she didn't like it. "So if someone would challenge me are you going to fight with me?"

The two stared at her, speechless. It looked like they couldn't understand what she was talking about. The rules clearly say that they needed to fight each other to survive.

When Delia understood her sarcasm, she let out a gasp. So, Gabi was telling them to read the manual. After all, sticking together would be impossible in this type of place. Again, the atmosphere turned awkward.

The two didn't know what to say. So they chose to finish their food as fast as possible and immediately used the excuse to brush their teeth so they could leave.

"Are you sure? You want me to accompany you? Like you know sticking together." Gabi gave the two a friendly smile it was too friendly, it had to be fake.

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When Mara and Delia were already out of the canteen, they immediately went to Fred's dorm. "How was it? Do you think she is special?" Fred asked.

"Special?" Mara snorted. "More like a special child."