

FINDING OUT THE BILLIONAIRE

Chapter 991

What on earth is this dude talking about? We have twenty minutes left to cherish all that we own now?

Gordon exchanged glances with Dillon and the rest. All of them had no clue what Alex was referring to.

How much damage can a phone call make? Which big shots has he called?

“Don't listen to him spewing all those nonsense, Dad. He's just a chauffeur. He's got nothing besides the skills to bluff others. Don't fall into his trap, Mr. Gadow,” Mia apprised everyone.

The disgruntled Avery was still feeling aggrieved at how Alex had treated her. No one had ever laid a

hand on her since birth, not even her parents. Having been struck by a lowly driver in public was more than what Avery could take.

Needless to say, Gordon believed her daughter's words completely. He was of the impression that Alex had called upon some random gangsters.

They might scurry away or pee in their pants once they meet us face to face. It's just twenty minutes. Fine, let's see what surprises he's got for us.

Avery started fretting. Within moments, Mr. Jefferson has already offended the principal of the University of Finance and Economics as well as the head of the Sheniston family. They aren't to be trifled with. What if they join forces and harm Mr. Jefferson? What should I do now? Should things take a turn for the worse, I'll quit schooling at most and get a job to help lessen Mom's financial burden. Mr. Jefferson has been very

kind and gracious to me. I shouldn't drag him into all these.

Avery approached Alex and murmured, "Mr. Jefferson, there are about slightly over ten minutes left. What do you think if we seize this opportunity to run away? These two are big shots, so we can't afford to offend either of them. Additionally, I can't make you pay the price for me. Let's go."

Alex kept silent whereas Howard, who overheard Avery's whisper, grinned smugly.

"What's wrong? It's not even twenty minutes yet, and you're dying to leave? We've been forewarned of the risk of losing everything we have. Hence, we should treasure our last moments now. Look at us, we're not doomed yet. So, why are you so eager to escape? I'm amazed at your gift of the gab to spin a tale."

Avery bit her lips and ignored Howard. I was practically speaking in an inaudible voice. I never thought he would be able to eavesdrop. Huh, we can't leave now. Hopefully, those that Mr. Jefferson has called upon are distinguished individuals who are more significant than both Gordon and the principal.

Yet, unbeknownst to them, a few flashy cars had already pulled over at the entrance of the University of Finance and Economics. They were speeding all the way and only reduced their speed when they were reaching the campus. Everyone was moving swiftly as though a delay of a mere second would cost them a great deal.

The students on campus gawked at the expensive cars. First, it was Alex's limited-edition Lamborghini. Now, more fancy cars were added for them to feast their eyes.

What's the occasion? Is our university famous now? That's why all the rich and famous are paying us a visit in their luxurious cars?

Some observant students spotted some big shots from Nebula City sitting in those cars. Whoa, I only remember seeing them on the television. Never in a million years would I have ever dreamed of meeting them in person.

Shortly after, there was a knock at the principal's office. Dillon shot Alex a glance. So, he did call for help? Have his men arrived? Great, let's see who these people are.

He raised his voice and answered, "Come on in!"

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The door to the principal's office was pushed open, and when the principal saw the people filtering into the room, his eyes widened. Not daring to stay sitting any longer, he hastily stood up to welcome them.

“President Sawyer, why have you suddenly come? Mr. Watts, may I know what I can help you with? Hello, Mr. Carr! Please take a seat.” A respectful look appeared on Dillon Gadow's face as he hurriedly welcomed them politely.

Howard Gadow knew that the people who had entered were all big shots. When he glanced to the

side, he realized Alex was still sitting. Thus, he stepped forward to pull Alex off and hissed, “You darn driver, stand up right now. This isn't for you to sit. Can't you see that the big shots are here? Why are you still hanging around instead of leaving right away?”

Alex sneered but still rose to his feet from the couch without saying anything. It was as if what was going on in the room had nothing to do with him at all.

Initially, Dillon thought that the ones who knocked on the door were the people Alex had summoned, but after realizing that those people were all influential figures, he assumed that they were not. After all, how can those big shots possibly know a trivial driver like Alex? They were the elites of society.

As a matter of fact, those big shots might be there to talk to him about the University of Finance and

Economics. It was likely that they were there to have the University of Finance and Economics rise in ranking.

“Please take a seat. I'll prep some tea for you right away,” Dillon politely told them.

When Gordon saw that Jack was among the group of people, he hastily moved over, ready to butter him up. “What a coincidence, President Sawyer. I never thought that I'd meet you here. My daughter has encountered some matters, so I've come here to settle it for her. Since we're both here, please consider the contract we were negotiating previously. The Sheniston family will surely be able to excel in the project.”

However, Jack ignored Gordon. Instead, he went to stand at the side with the other two. No one sat down on the couch.

Confused by how no one was taking a seat, Dillon wondered if he had done something wrong while welcoming them.

“Please have a seat! The trip here must have been tiring. Please just tell me what's on your mind,” Dillon courteously said.

Jack scoffed before saying, “You've forced my chairman away from the couch and asked me, the subordinate, to take a seat instead. Would I not be extremely disrespectful to take the seat?”

“If the couch isn't a place Mr. Jefferson can sit, then how can we sit on it?” Ernest Watts said.

“That's right. If the chairman of Four Seas Corporation doesn't have the right to sit, how can we possibly do that?” Otto chimed in.

Dillon and Gordon were dumbfounded by their words. What's going on? Why can't we understand what's going on?

Just as Gordon, Mia, the principal, and Howard were still trying to wrap their heads around the situation, the three influential figures walked toward Alex.

“Mr. Jefferson, I hope you've been doing well,” Ernest earnestly said to Alex. The young man in front of him was none other than Four Seas Corporation's chairman. He owned hundreds of billions worth of assets. Although Ernest himself was capable, the chances of him climbing up the ranks by sucking up to someone like Alex would be much higher.

“Mr. Jefferson, are they the ones who crossed you. Please leave this to me. I'll definitely settle this in a way that will satisfy you,” Otto guaranteed as he

patted his chest.

At the same time, Jack uttered, “Mr. Jefferson, I'm at your service.”

Dillon was completely taken aback by what he saw. What's going on? Isn't this young man Avery's brother? Gordon even said that he's just a driver. But it doesn't seem like he's anyone ordinary with how these three big shots are talking to him. They've all called him Mr. Jefferson. What kind of powerful figure is he?

Dillon was completely stunned to the core.

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“I've summoned you here to let you witness what this school is doing,” Alex said in a flat tone.

Naturally, Otto and Ernest would not dare to voice any objections to Alex's words, so they replied in unison, “Mr. Jefferson, please enlighten us.”

“This is my sister, Avery, who's also a student at this university. During the holidays, she thought of looking for a part-time job, so Howard here introduced her to a job with slightly higher pay.” As Alex spoke, he turned to look at Howard with a sneer.

At that, Ernest and Otto shared a look, but neither could figure out what Alex was trying to say. Both did not dare to jump to any conclusions, so they quietly waited for Alex to continue.

“Back then, Avery signed the contract after making sure that nothing was wrong with it. However, Howard later asked her to accompany the patrons in a bar. When Avery looked at the contract again, she realized the contents of the contract have been changed. If Avery did not accompany the patrons in the bar, then she would have to sleep with Howard. Naturally, she didn't agree to it. Thus, Howard pulled some strings and had Dillon fire Avery,” Alex explained the situation.

After that, Alex's gaze drifted away from Howard toward Mia. Instantly, a shudder wracked Mia's body, and it felt as though a predator had laid eyes on her. Instinctively, she took two steps back and hid behind Gordon.

Everything, including her expressions and actions, was seen by Alex. A smirk appeared on his face when

he noticed them. Now you're scared? Well, it's too late.

“As for Mia over here... She's Avery's roommate. She recorded a video of her showering without her permission and uploaded the video to the university's forum. She has violated Avery's privacy, so how do you think this case should be dealt with?” Alex then turned to look at Ernest and Otto.

Meanwhile, Dillon, Howard, Mia, and Gordon were already frightened out of their wits when they realized how polite the big shots were to Alex. The moment they heard Alex retell the incident, they knew they were doomed.

“Mimi, didn't you say that this guy's just a driver? How can he possibly know these big shots? Moreover, President Sawyer is calling him his chairman.” The gears in Gordon's mind could no longer function

properly. There was nothing else but confusion in his head, and he questioned his daughter right away, disregarding the fact that they were in front of others.

“I-I... I don't know...” Mia was shaking like a leaf. She did not even dare to glance in Alex's direction.

It was then she realized that the Lamborghini that Alex was driving belonged to him—he was not a driver.

Even then, Mia still could not figure out how Avery managed to get close to someone as powerful as Alex. Isn't she just a country bumpkin?

Everything had happened so suddenly that it felt like a dream. Perhaps a better term to phrase it would be a nightmare. However, even a nightmare would be better than this, for Mia wished that she could wake up from this nightmare and find out that everything

was still fine.

By then, Dillon had worked out what the situation was. As it turned out, his son had crossed someone he could not afford to cross and had even dragged him into the mess.

Before the three big shots could unleash their fury, the smart Dillon quickly kneeled before Alex and sincerely said, “Mr. Jefferson, I apologize for offending you because I didn't know who you were. Avery Quentino is an excellent student, and I know I've dealt with this matter terribly. This is my fault, so I won't expel her.”

With that said, Dillon tugged Howard's shirt and gave him a look. His son promptly knew what his father was trying to say, and he hastily went on his knees as well.

“I'm sorry, sir. I've wronged Avery, and I'm to blame for this. I shouldn't have had my lower body do the thinking for me. I shouldn't have done something as immoral as this. If you want to punish me for this matter, I won't have anything to say about that.” As Howard admitted his mistakes, he prostrated himself before Alex, seemingly bowing to Alex.

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“I'll leave this matter to you then. I have something else to attend to, and I hope that you won't let me down with the way you settle this.” After giving Ernest and Otto a heavy pat, he led Avery out of the room.

It was not difficult to deal with the matter. What was most important was to delete that recording of Avery and remove every trace of it from the internet.

Once Alex led Avery away from the place, the only ones left in the office were Jack, Ernest, Otto, Dillon, Howard, Mia, and Gordon.

Both Ernest and Otto wanted to get closer to Alex. After they found out how the four people in front of them had mistreated Alex and Avery, there was no way they were going to let the four of them off easily.

If Alex was displeased with the way they dealt with the matter, they might suffer the brunt of his wrath, let alone trying to form a connection with Alex.

Moreover, Jack was absolutely loyal to Alex. Since those four people had done something so outrageous,

he would naturally have to teach them a lesson.

“President Sawyer, regardless of everything, we are associates who have had meals together before. My daughter has only made this mistake because she's still young and insensible. Please give her a chance to turn over a new leaf, and I'll gift Four Seas Corporation forty percent of the Sheniston family's assets,” Gordon pleaded as he kneeled before Jack.

When Mia heard her father's words, she immediately tried to stop him. As she tugged the hem of his shirt, she cried out, “Dad, have you lost your mind? Forty percent of the Sheniston family's assets? Doesn't that mean that you're giving away half of the Sheniston family's assets? All I did was upload a video. I'll delete the video now! I can also apologize to Avery, and this issue will blow over. Do you really need to do something as drastic as this?”

Just as those words were out of her mouth, a hard slap landed on her cheek. In the next second, she looked at Gordon in disbelief as tears rolled down her face.

“Dad, did you just hit me? You've never hit me my entire life, but now you're hitting me for something as minor as this? Do you not want me as your daughter anymore?”

Gordon sighed, helpless and exasperated.

Gosh, I've really spoiled her. Even now, she has no idea how horrendous her mistake is. It would already be a blessing if Four Seas Corporation accepted forty percent of the Sheniston family's assets, but she's still saying something like this? She really has no idea how ruthless things can get!

Just as Gordon was about to say something to

salvage the situation, Jack barked out a laugh and said, “Ms. Sheniston is right. Perhaps, Gordon's response is too dramatic. How can Four Seas Corporation possibly accept the Sheniston family's assets?”

Mia always felt that her family was a powerful family. At the very least, no one on campus dared to offend her. In fact, they all had to make sure not to cross her in any way.

Thus, she assumed that even Jack would have to be respectful to her father. That was why she found it humiliating when her father went down on his knees and kneeled before Jack.

“Dad, get up quickly. Look, Mr. Sawyer said that he doesn't want the Sheniston family's assets, so that means he's not going to hold us accountable for this.” With that, Mia tried to help Gordon up to a standing

position.

Just then, Jack spoke again. “I won't be taking the Sheniston family's assets because the Sheniston family will soon cease to exist in Nebula City.”

Gordon, who had just relaxed a little, had the living daylights frightened out of him when he heard Jack's words. In fact, he was so stunned to his core that he nearly passed out.

“Dad, what's wrong? Don't scare me!” Mia shouted as she hastily supported her father.

“Mr. Sawyer, are you pulling our legs? All I did was upload a video, and all I need to do is to delete it. Must you annihilate our family just because of that? Aren't you overreacting?” Mia grumbled.

Jack sneered. Don't worry. That's not all that's waiting

for you!

Meanwhile, Ernest and Otto were shaking their heads at Mia. She has good looks but not a good head on her shoulders. Just look at how foolish she is!

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Making the Sheniston family disappear from Nebula City was already a kind decision from Jack, but the foolish Mia was still upset about it.

Nevertheless, Jack said nothing. He only smiled, and no one could figure out what he was thinking about

from that smile.

“From the way you say it, it does seem like I've overreacting by making the Sheniston family disappear. Since you're such a dutiful daughter, let me make you a star,” Jack told her, the small smile still on his face.

Mia froze. She did not know why Jack's reactions would differ so much from each other. Upon hearing him, she subconsciously touched her face. In fact, she was rather confident about her looks. Even though she's not as pretty as Avery she was still above average.

“Mr. Sawyer, you're not joking with me, right? Are you really going to make me a star?” Mia excitedly asked.

I thought that I'd be doomed after crossing someone influential, but as it turns out, Mr. Sawyer's only joking

with me. He's not going to force the Sheniston family to the end of the road.

Mia did not understand what Jack's words truly meant at all, but that did not mean Gordon was the same.

He quickly stopped his daughter and said, “Mimi, what are you talking about? What star nonsense are you going on about. Hurry up and apologize to President Sawyer.”

Mia instantly flung off her father's hands and whined, “Dad, I want to become a star. Mr. Sawyer has given me this opportunity, so there's no way I'm going to let it slip by me. Don't intervene in my matters!”

The Sheniston family was heading to its end because of his daughter, and yet, she was still so foolish. A star? She's really too stupid!

How did I get a daughter as dumb as her? No one will be able to salvage her! Gordon fumed. When he could not calm himself down in time, he passed out.

Mia glanced at her father. Once she checked his breathing and realized that he was still alive, she decided to leave him be. Instead, she placed all of her focus on Jack.

One of the main businesses that Four Seas Corporation had was entertainment, and it was a piece of cake for them to make anyone a famous celebrity. That was why Mia was completely convinced that Jack was serious.

“Mr. Sawyer, when are we going to sign the contract?” Mia exclaimed.

Jack laughed before turning to give his subordinates outside a look. “Bring Ms. Sheniston for her filming.

Make sure to promote her film to as big of an audience as possible. As a matter of fact, it'll be best if the entire campus knows about her.”

The moment Mia heard that, she was all smiles. Mr. Sawyer was about to crush my entire family a moment ago, but in the next second, he's treating me so well!

Mia did not know why Jack had changed his mind so suddenly, but that did not matter. All she knew was that she was going to be popular in the blink of an eye. This is such a wondrous matter that everyone on campus would be able to watch the movie I'm in. I can't wait for that to happen!

“Mr. Sawyer, are you serious about this? I'm going to do my best. I swear I won't let you down.” With that said, Mia left with Jack's subordinates, and she was smiling the entire time.

On the other hand, Dillon and Howard were quaking in their boots. All Mia did was record a video, and Jack was already planning to decimate the entire Sheniston family. He was even making Mia film those kinds of movies so that her reputation would be ruined. In other words, Jack was truly ruthless.

What Howard did was tens and hundreds of times worse than what Mia did, and I even fired Avery. In fact, I even humiliated Alex...

Dillon did not dare to think of his fate anymore. He promptly kneeled before the three people and smashed his head on the ground to prostrate before them. The blood flowed down his face, but he dared not halt in his tracks at all. He just kept pleading, "My son and I now know that we've done wrong. We've made a huge mistake. Please have mercy on us!"

No matter how dumb Howard was, he could still realize that he had made the worst mistake in life at how his father was acting. Hence, he hastily repeated his father's actions and pleaded for the three people to let him off.

“It's meaningless for the two of you to plead to us. Mr. Jefferson's gone, and even if you bleed to death here, nothing will change. You will still have to accept your due punishment,” Jack uttered.

Dillon fell back onto his bottom when he heard that. The colors all drained from his face as the wrinkles on his face deepened. It was as if he had aged ten years in that split second, and he was mumbling, “Karma... This is karma!”

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Dillon gave his son free reign as he thought that his high position was powerful enough to protect him forever. The events that had transpired that day were something he had never expected.

His punishment for harming so many young ladies has not come because it was not the time yet. Now, there's no way out of it.

Despite being held in high regard for years, Dillon's reputation was not immune to a scandal as serious as this. His career ended in ruins when the entire school knew that he had abused his power by condoning his

son's malicious act against many young ladies.

In the subsequent chaos, Otto and Ernest took the opportunity to cost Dillon the Gadow family's fortune with a series of deft and subtle maneuvers.

Unable to accept the turn of events, Dillon lost his mind and was admitted into the city's asylum.

However, he did not suffer alone. His son, Howard had lost everything including the use of his legs and was cast into the streets to beg. Being the son of a formerly rich man, he had resorted to begging for his meals. All the people he had tormented before celebrated their bully's defeat. Some even came in droves to see and mock him.

Like his father, Howard was unable to bear the shame of his predicament. He even contemplate suicide, but he realized bitterly that he did not have the courage to

go through with it. As a result, he was forced to live a miserable life going forward.

While the school was still reeling from the fate of the Gadows, the appearance of another piece of shocking news completely overshadowed it.

Mia Sheniston, the most popular girl in school who was known for showing off, and had a smug air of superiority about her wherever she went.

Though many were irritated by her arrogance, many admired how she carried herself and the arrogance she exuded. In short, there was not a single person in school who did not know her.

That was who she was before the Sheniston family went bankrupt overnight. Many were thoroughly shocked by the news when they saw the video on the internet that she starred in.

“My God, I can't believe Mia is starring in a porn film! What a brazen act.”

“It really is her. She usually behaves like she's the princess of the school, doesn't she? I can't believe she would star in a film like that. How sickening is that! Even if her family went bankrupt overnight, there is still no reason to resort to such measures!”

“Look at her face in the video. Do you think she was forced into it? I'm very sure she volunteered to do it. She can look high and mighty for all she wants, but we all know that she's such a filthy and promiscuous character!”

“I'd heard that Mia was the one who shot that video of Avery taking a shower and posted it online without her permission. And the next thing you know, she's making her own film. What an immoral person she is.”

“If she didn't come from a rich family, she would have been stoned to death long ago.”

Several girls were gossiping in whispers as they watched the video.

In fact, interest in the news of Mia and the Gadows completely dwarfed the video of Avery that was in circulation.

To their surprise, the other students soon discovered that both catastrophes had been linked to them offending Avery.

Initially, everyone was under the impression that she was a country bumpkin with no money or power. Now, the other students were much warier to not go against her now. All they could do was lament the misfortune of Mia and the Gadows to have picked on the wrong

target.

“Mr. Jefferson, thank you for all your help,” Avery said gratefully when they were seated in a restaurant near the school. “I don't know how to thank you.”

After showing me what it feels like to be protected and even helping me clear my name, I see him as my savior.

Alex smiled and took a sip of water. “It was no trouble at all. I would do anything for Mrs. Walker's daughter. You can repay me by doing well in school.”

Avery kept her head bowed. Despite his reassurance, she still felt hugely indebted to him.

There were other underlying emotions in her that she could not address.

“Let me do something for you, Mr. Jefferson. I will feel horrible if I don't.” Avery glanced up timidly at him before hurriedly lowering her gaze again.

I am prepared to do anything he asks. I'm already twenty-one and have been saving myself. I can think of no man more deserving of me than him.

Alex set down his glass, his eyes alight with sudden inspiration. “There is something you could do for me.”

Avery perked up. “Really?” she said excitedly. “Name it and it's done!”

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“It's a little embarrassing, actually. I just realized that I forgot my wallet today after ordering my food. Coincidentally, my phone had just run out of battery. It wouldn't look good on me to be in debt to the restaurant. If you like, you can repay me by paying for my meal?”

Avery's look of excitement froze. She was ready to give in to any of his unreasonable demands.

Instead, she felt unusually disappointed for some reason that she had forgotten to answer his question.

Alex watched Avery gazing forlornly at the table laden with food, without a clue of what was going through the latter's mind. Her reaction puzzled him.

Could she be concerned about the steep price of the meal? I tried to order conservatively as I have

planned for her to pay the bill from the beginning. Besides, this is a restaurant near the school, so it should keep the price in check. This meal shouldn't cost more than two hundred. Could it still be out of her budget?

Alex cleared his throat. "If that's the case, I'll pay for the meal then."

"That's not what I meant! It's the least I could do for everything you've done. Let me foot the bill!" Avery started for the cashier before Alex could stand up.

Alex was mystified as the problem was obviously not about money. He did not understand what caused the change in the girl.

It did not occur to him that it was possible for someone to develop feelings for another within three hours of meeting each other.

Like Maggie, Avery was one of the most beautiful girls Alex had ever seen. Compared to her, he thought movie stars looked dull by comparison.

Alex was initially drawn to her for her outstanding beauty. It was only after getting to know her that he had been attracted to her personality.

The only thing Alex had failed to take into account was the magnitude of his charisma.

Soon after, Avery returned from the cashier and stood before Alex, but dared not meet his gaze. "Let's go, Mr. Jefferson!" she said in a strange voice.

The condensed jade prodded at its master's subconscious. Master, it appears that the girl has a crush on you! You should for her!

She has a crush on me?

Despite finding the explanation logical for the change in Avery's behavior, Alex was stumped.

Enough! No more lollipops for you if you open your mouth again!

The condensed jade fell silent at the threat but not before throwing Alex a dirty look.

Alex ignored it. "Thank you for paying for my meal. Consider us even!"

Avery's stomach gave another lurch of displeasure at those words. She discovered that she enjoyed being indebted to Alex.

At the sound of a sudden ringing of a phone, Avery reached instinctively into her pocket and found that it

was not hers.

Out of the corner of her eye, she caught Alex fishing for his.

“Is that so? Leave that to me.” Alex hung up after that abrupt response.

Avery did not know who he spoke to on the phone. The thing that caught her attention was that his phone was not out of battery.

With a bitter laugh at herself, Avery finally understood that he had allowed her to pay the bill merely out of courtesy.

“I have some matters to attend to. If you still intend to continue your studies here, you may. I have taken care of everything. Nobody will slander you anymore. If you find that you can't get used to the place, I have

also assigned somebody to arrange for your transfer to the most prestigious school in Nebula City. Of course, the choice is you.”

Without another word, Alex gave Avery a tap on the shoulder before getting into his Lamborghini.

Avery remained transfixed at the spot Alex disappeared long after he was out of sight. A man who is almost perfect will never belong to me. There is a vast gap between us that will never be bridged.

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“Master, my grandfather is behaving like he's possessed,” Auriel complained. “He wouldn't come down from the mountain. It's been close to six months but I have no idea what he's been up to.”

Alex smiled as he tousled her hair, feeling slightly guilty that he had been too busy of late to visit her. After a period apart, he noticed that she had lost the baby fat on her cheeks; instead, she looked all lively.

“You have grown!” Alex exclaimed.

Auriel took a wary step back as she clutched her chest.

“M-master,” she stammered. “What are you talking about?”

Alex froze in horror. She must have misunderstood what I meant!

“Never mind,” he said quickly in an attempt to gloss over the awkward moment. “Where is Dr. Skyworth? Send me his address. I'll pay him a visit.”

Auriel still looked suspicious. After not seeing Master for a long time, I feel so distant from him!

Alex sighed resignedly. “I've been busy of late,” he explained as he studied the location sent to him by Auriel. “Though I have neglected you in the past, that doesn't mean that I don't care anymore. I may still drop by at any time to put your medical skills to the test. If it's not up to my satisfaction, you'll be in for a good round of punishment!”

That sounds more like the master I know! Auriel smiled at last before sticking out her tongue. “Just drop by and test me for all you want. I've been putting in a lot of effort in my practice.”

Alex knew Auriel well enough to know that despite being naturally gifted, she was a strong-willed girl who would not slack in the pursuit of acquiring medical knowledge.

His words were merely to realign her as one of his priorities as her image of him must have been blurred after not seeing each other for so long.

In his absence, she had grown into a young lady who viewed him almost as a stranger. That was the reason for her wariness when he touched her head.

Now that I'm back, I have to reaffirm my status as her master.

As it had been a long time since Alex had last seen Tyrael, he missed the old man. Alex deduced that Tyrael must be obsessing over his research when

Auriel mentioned that he was up on a mountain.

Guided by the location Auriel provided Alex soon arrived at the foot of a mountain. He gazed up and saw its peak, Tyrael's supposed residence, shrouded in mist. The altitude might have stumped an ordinary man, but it was nothing to Alex.

Several minutes later, he arrived at the top of the mountain. The only man-made structure in sight was the house of straw. Even before entering, Alex knew from being able to sense Tyrael's presence that he was in the right place.

“What an unexpected surprise, Dr. Jefferson! You could have called if you wanted to meet instead of making such a long trip. It must have cost you a lot of time to climb up this devil of a mountain.” Tyrael snapped the book in his hand shut as he hastened to stand up and greet his guest.

“Oh, pardon my poor memory,” Tyrael added apologetically with a smack on his forehead. “There isn't reception up here, obviously!”

“No trouble at all. It only took me a couple of minutes. The purpose of my visit is to see how you're doing. What research necessitates you to conduct it at such a place?”

What? A couple of minutes?

Tyrael gaped at Alex, unsure whether he felt more impressed by the feat or the casual manner in which it was said. We can't possibly be talking about the same mountain!

Tyrael recalled the first time he had ascended the mountain. Having started at dawn, he finally staggered up to his straw hut as the last of dusk's light

disappeared over the horizon, parched and nearly out of breath.

As he was climbing, he repeatedly questioned his sanity to have chosen such an inaccessible place to conduct his research. Why did I have to pick this godforsaken place? I have brought this upon myself!

Though the mountain had been a difficult climb, its tranquility, something that was unavailable in larger cities, made up for it.

Surrounded by such peace and serenity, one would undoubtedly relax naturally and find the focus and mental capabilities needed to devote to research.

“Dr. Jefferson, you came at the right time!” Tyrael proclaimed, hardly able to conceal his excitement. “The past six months had not been in vain. Wait until you see what I've found!”

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FINDING OUT THE BILLIONAIRE

Chapter 999



“In my studies over the past six months, I have been interested in a certain pill called Soul Reaper. I found the recipe in an ancient manuscript of medicine that came into my possession from a stroke of luck.”

As he spoke, Tyrael produced a battered book from the table and handed it to Alex. “It was an accidental find from my father's house. Being over ninety, he's senile but very fit. This book was found under one of the legs of his coffee table. It looked unfamiliar to me so I pulled it out for a closer look. Imagine my surprise

when I found out what it was. It was a pity that the instructions to cultivate the ability to reap souls did not come with the actual uses of the pill.”

Alex took the dog-eared copy and studied the page indicated by Tyrael carefully. The ingredients required for that particular concoction were rare. The one that struck him most was the requirement of millennial ginseng.

Wild ginseng was becoming increasingly rare and valuable as most ginsengs were grown in plantations as a result of overwhelming demand. Even hundred-year-old ginseng of the purple variety was deemed rare that it would be sold in an auction. Alex had only seen millennial ginseng once before but he put it to use.

“Over the course of my stay, I've managed to gather all the other ingredients except millennial ginseng. I

wonder what would the pill actually do? Something special I think, judging by the list of the ingredients. I would be willing to risk myself to see this project through. If I could obtain your help in this endeavor, Dr. Jefferson, I would already be more than halfway closer to success!”

The skills he had managed to amass over a career spanning several decades earned him the title of a divine physician. However, Tyrael knew deep down that Alex's talent far exceeded his own.

Besides, Alex knew things I have never even heard of. If he is on board, I would definitely have a fighting chance in seeing exactly what Soul Reapers do.

“Though I am curious myself, it's easier said than done,” Alex admitted. “Millennial ginsengs are hard to come by. I can't guarantee that I'll even see one. Please don't get your hopes up.”

Tyrael nodded before inviting Alex for a tour around the mountain.

As they had not seen each other for a long time, Alex's departure was delayed rather insistently by Tyrael. Feeling sorry for the older man for how he must have felt living alone for the past six months, Alex obliged him.

During his stay atop the mountain, Alex was totally relaxed. Birds chirped when the sun was out while the song of crickets filled the night sky. Even the cultivation of his Mortal Force saw a significant increase, leading him to the conclusion that solitary confinement employed by most dedicated practitioners of their craft was the only way to achieve true mastery.

At the same time, Alex also found faint traces of Mana

in the mountainous air. Hence, he reaffirmed Tyrael's choice of location to do research.

Tyrael took advantage of the younger man's stay and sought his opinion on many aspects of the practice of medicine. As a means to repay the hospitality of his host, Alex answered every one of Tyrael's questions to the best of his abilities.

After a fortnight, Alex was shocked to discover that he had overstayed his welcome. Despite Tyrael's insistence for him to extend his stay, Alex insisted on his intentions to leave which the former finally relented.

Gazing at Alex's departing silhouette, Tyrael was slightly forlorn. Despite having the pursuit of medicine to keep him occupied, the early loss of his son still haunted him. Though he loved Auriel very much, she was not enough to mend the void in his heart.

Tyrael thought of Alex as his savior. As unwilling as he was to let Alex leave, the latter's presence had done him good. Tyrael felt a sense of peace from the younger man's visit he had not felt in a long time.

Oh, how I wish my boy were still here with me.

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[FINDING OUT THE BILLIONAIRE](#)

Chapter 1000



When Alex descended the mountain, he heard herb vendors calling their prices at the marketplace at the foot of the mountain. A dizzying array of stalls had almost every herb imaginable for sale.

Alex did not stop to inspect them. The Mana in the mountainous air helped in the growth and harvest of unusually high-quality herbs. He knew that the items for sale in the market did not contain what he was after.

As Alex required only the best ingredients available for his project, he quickly dismissed the marketplace.

Just as he was about to head back to his car, Alex caught a glimpse of an old woman who was sitting away from the main body of the stalls. In a tattered-looking basket lay a rather large ginseng root.

Though it was a considerable distance away, Alex noticed that the ginseng was at least a thousand years old.

Suddenly, a Mercedes screeched to a halt next to the

old woman. The window rolled down and the greasy head of a man in his thirties emerged.

“Hey! Are you selling herbs, old lady? I'd be surprised if you manage to sell anything here from this remote corner. What is that thing underneath the white cloth?”

Having spent the entire afternoon at that spot, the old woman whipped off the cloth eagerly for this potential customer.

“This ginseng is left by my ancestors. If it weren't for the money needed for my son's emergency operation, I wouldn't even consider selling this.”

Anthony's eyes widened at the reveal of the massive ginseng stump. He was unable to avert his eyes from it.

Opening the door a crack for a quick look around, Anthony ensured that nobody else was around before descending his vehicle.

“How much do you want for it?” he asked as he took the ginseng out and studied it intently, he was rather proud of his discovery.

The old lady tried to stop him from picking up the priceless artifact without permission but she did not dare to drive this potential client away. After all, no one came to see her the whole time she was there. Besides, she really needed the money urgently as her son's condition was worsening.

“I wouldn't know how much to ask from you, but I'm sure it must be worth something given its size! My grandfather passed it down to me. If it weren't for an emergency, I wouldn't even dream of taking it out.”

After a pause, she stammered, “Shall we say three hundred thousand for it? It's the exact amount I need for my son's surgery. He's not going to make it if this drags on any longer.”

As soon as he found out that the old woman was unacquainted with the street price, a plan immediately began to form in his mind. With a wicked glint in his eye, he let the ginseng fall carelessly from his fingers.

With a cry of shock, the old woman dived with surprising agility to catch it.

“Do you think you can lie to me, old woman? Your ginseng isn't anything special. Yes, it's large, but it has all the telltale signs showing that it is not a wild plant. Look at the color. It's obvious that it's been dyed with chemicals! Asking for three hundred thousand for this is nothing short of daylight robbery. If it wasn't for your urgent need of money, I wouldn't

even entertain you. Consider yourself lucky to have run into a kind person like me today. I'll give you thirty thousand for it.”

As if to drive home his point, Anthony held out three fingers.

The old woman froze at his offer, which was nowhere near the amount needed for her son's operation. He's going to die if I don't gather enough money for his surgery!

“Could you have mistaken, mister? This ginseng has been left to me by my ancestors. How could it be artificially grown?” the old woman explained.

“What do you know, old woman? I've been following my father, an herb merchant, for as long as I can remember. Rest assured, I know more than you. If I wasn't feeling benevolent today, I wouldn't even

consider buying this from you. Tell you what, forty thousand and we have a deal. Nothing more.”

“Fifty thousand!” she cried, frightened by his tone that he would leave before agreeing to the offer.

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