

Lazily 501

Chapter 501: Grandfather

However, his coldness wasn't enough to dampen her mood. She smiled. "I do. Isn't that why I'm here? I trust that you will tell your boss about this information."

The man had a steely gaze again. This man was really good-looking, but he kept on staring at her like he was about to strangle her or something. Was it just because she was wearing something that made her look younger?

It wasn't her fault that her body was on the underdeveloped side! It was because she was really weak.

"And how do I contact you?" he asked.

"I am sure you will find a way." There was a smile on her face, or at least she tried to maintain a gentle smile on her face. She placed a black calling card with only her name on it. Then she smiled. "Please tell Mr. Archy that I am looking forward to our next meeting." With a grin on her face, Gabi left the VVIP room and made her way to the second floor of the jewelry store where most high-end pieces of jewelry were located. Unlike when she was on the first floor, she didn't ask for some assistance because she just wanted to see some of the latest designs that they have.

Though Bobo Jewelries sounds cute, they are really known for their elegant designs. Until now, no one knows the identity of their designer. However, she very much wanted to meet the person behind this beautiful jewelry. After a few minutes, she decided to buy some new dangling earrings.

Since she wasn't someone who loves to party and go out in her previous life, she had missed a lot of things the people her age and status do. For instance, she never really bought any jewelry for herself. Most of her jewelry was inherited from her mother or given by her father and Alfons. Even after she got married in the past timeline, her jewelry was still gifted by her husband and Alfons.

After she left the jewelry store, she asked her driver to visit the cemetery where her mother was buried. Her mother, Rosa Ren, died when she was five years old. Since then, the only reason why she would go outside aside from buying some new books is to visit her mother in the Ren Family Resting Mansion or at least that's what her grandfather called it.

The resting mansion is not a part of the Ren Family estate. It was located in another piece of land that the Ren Family owned long before her grandfather was born. The Resting Mansion was actually a huge house where the ashes of the people from the Ren Family were placed. And just like any other mansion, it had a total of ten rooms where people from the Ren Family could use every time they visit and spend some time with the dead.

Gabi knew this was some weird tradition and until now, she didn't understand why the Ren Family does that. However, she had learned to accept it.

After about an hour, Gabi's car finally arrived inside the Mansion that was surrounded by tall concrete gates and pine trees. It was a massive estate in the middle of two-acre land. Trees and flowers surrounded the house.

Her grandfather said the house was actually built more than three hundred years ago.

The Ren Family is one of the Founding Families of the Du Empire. Their history ran deep. It was said that the Ren Family was once close to the Ye Family. That was until one of them betrayed the other. Or at least that's what the rumor said. But in this life, she knew that rumors were known as rumors for a reason.

In the past life, she tried to ask her father and even Alfons about this matter before, but none of them could give her an exact answer about this matter. She eyed the tall pine trees that were perfectly lined on the concrete road that would lead her to the mansion. Anyone who would look at this place would find it hard to believe that this estate is just a place that was built to house the ashes of the dead Ren Family member.

This entire estate looked really luxurious and just different.

She then looked at the tall tower next to the mansion. It reminded her of the tower where Rapunzel lived, tall and without windows except for the two windows near the top. Her grandfather said that this tower was used by their ancestors before to check the surroundings during civil wars in Du Empire.

"Miss your grandfather's butler is walking our way."

"Hm?" She immediately turned towards the man with white long hair that was neatly tucked in a ponytail. Seeing Mr. Esdras here only meant one thing.

Her grandfather is inside the mansion.

Without waiting for the butler to approach them, she got out of the car and smiled. "Mr. Esdras"

"Young Miss," he gave her a bow. "Master is inside having his tea. Shall I prepare something specifically for you?"

"Ah? Yes, please give me something to eat."

"E eat?"

She nodded in response. That's right. She doesn't usually eat around her grandfather and has never spent some tea time with him. This was simply because Alfons said her grandfather was scary. And like a good little cousin, she thought it would be better to stop seeing her grandfather to avoid reminding Alfons the existence of this scary man.

Eh. Once again, she was really stupid.

But then again, she couldn't really blame her previous self for acting that way. After all, Alfons was her only friend, her confidant. He was someone who treated her like a real sibling, someone whom she considered as a lifeline.

In the previous timeline, she had sacrificed a lot for Alfons, for him to make her suffer..

Ah, she was really unlucky.

"Then Does miss still liked cupcakes?"

She smiled at that. When she was a child, she really loved those cupcakes with colorful sprinkles. Her mother used to bake a lot of these cupcakes at home. "Yes, please. Also please take me to see grandfather. It's been so long since I had a conversation with him."

Chapter 502: Fixer

"Grandfather"

"Hmmm" The old man with a head full of white hair nodded at her. "Take a seat."

She complied she was expecting the old man to have his tea at the balcony at the back of the mansion. However, he was actually in the small library on the second floor. He was staring at the Canvas that hang on the wall behind her.

"It's been a few months," he spoke. "You look thinner."

"My father just died."

"Ah. I heard about it."

Of course he did. After all, her father was still a prime minister when he died. Yet, her grandfather never showed up at her father's funeral. She used to ask why the old man seemed to hate her father so much.

It must be because of Alfons.

"I trust that you have been well, grandpa?" she asked. As a man in his late sixties, Mr. Ren Zhou is still as strong as a horse. Despite his age, he was still the current chairman of Ren Aesthetics and Co.

"Hmm. And you?"

He was always a man of few words, his face always looked stern and serious. But right now, the old man was actually strangely looking at her.

Was it because she was looking straight into his eyes?

"I am doing my best to recover my health." Gabi smiled. She never hated the old man. However, she wasn't very close to him either. The small rift in their relationship only increased because she was stupid enough to think that she was actually helping Alfons.

"You came here to visit your mother?"

She nodded in response. Seeing her grandfather was really unexpected.

"Are you still planning to finish your studies?" He asked after a long silence.

"No."

"You decide to stop your masters?"

"Yes." What was the use of education? Before her rebirth, she had masters and have a lot of awards and certificates. Those were not enough to make her smarter outside of her mansion. "Grandfather I want to work for the company."

She saw her grandfather's hands shook. He immediately put his teacup down. "Company?"

"Ren Aesthetics."

"You "

"I know I didn't study management. I took International Relations to make my father happy. But that doesn't mean, I love it." This was a lie. Gabi actually liked it. She liked politics. She grew up watching her father serve the country as a politician. However, she needed to get close to her grandfather to prevent the tragedy that would soon befall the only family she had left.

"You You want to work for Ren Aesthetics?"

"I know I don't qualify for any position. I have no background in business either. So I wanted to work behind the scenes and help the company." Before the old man could ask any more questions, she added. "Please don't get me wrong. I just thought that I am I am alone. The only family I have left is you. Of course."

"Behind the scenes?"

"Grandfather just to make myself clearer. I want to work as the company's lobbyist, a fixer."

Ren Zhou squinted his eyes at her. "Lobbyist?"

She knew he was unconvinced. Everyone knew that Gabrielle Sutton had a weak body. All her life, she took classes inside her mansion. She was home-schooled and learned a lot of theories with no proper application. To put it simply, everyone thought she was the type of woman that know all ways to create a fire in the wilderness but couldn't really identify the type of material she could use to ignite the flames.

She lacked the experience and social skills to survive in the outside world.

"Yes," she confidently smiled. "A lobbyist."

"Gabi"

For the first time since she arrived, the old man finally mentioned her name. "Being a lobbyist isn't child's play."

"Let me prove myself to you."

"You " The old man didn't continue the words that he wanted to speak. Instead, he sighed before shaking his head. "Just now you look just like your mother."

"Grandpa"

"That child. She always looked so determined and smart. Her eyes were bright and sharp." Another sigh escaped her grandfather's lips. "Too bad. Love blinded her."

"Grandpa, this isn't about the past." Until now, Gabi didn't know the entire story of her parent's marriage. But she wasn't in a hurry. She believes that she had the time to think about this once she gains her grandfather's trust. She gulped. "I just want to learn how to defend myself."

If the old man wouldn't allow her to work for the company, then she could only do other ways to force his hand. And it wouldn't be pretty.

"How do you plan to prove your skills?"

'Skills' that's right. No matter what, Ren Zhou isn't the type of person that would allow anyone to take over the Ren Aesthetics just because they are blood-related. He always values skills and strength above anything else. It was a smart strategy that avoided any dramas and fighting inside the family. However, this would also become his ultimate downfall.

Gabi smiled at the old man. "I heard that you are going to bid on the upcoming project for the Empire's Annual Event."

"How did you "

She smirked. She was talking about an Arena that the Ye Family wanted to build. This Arena was only called an Arena, but it was actually designed to look like a whole village. It would be big enough to house a hundred delegates from other countries. There would be a pool, mall, salons, spas, banks, restaurant, entertainment center, and a big arena that would become the venue of many international events in the future. The thing is, no one knows this. At least not yet..

Everyone thought this was only an arena when, in fact, this is a project of a lifetime!

And this is the project that the Sealey family won because of Gabi's help.

"This time, companies from all over the world would try to bid for the project. Though Ren Aesthetics is considered big, we wouldn't be able to win the bidding this time."

"And if we win?" she asked.

Chapter 503: Mission Accomplished!

"Then I will give you the company."

"I don't need that." She immediately declined. "I don't know how to manage a company and I have no interest in doing so." When it comes to inheritance, the only person that was destined to inherit the whole Ren Family should be her, Gabrielle. This was because her mother was the only child of Ren Zhou. However, since Rosa Ren refused to manage the business after she married Gabrielle's father, Ren Zhou was forced to train her brother's sons and daughter in the company.

This decision had been proven right when Gabi also refused to work for the Ren Aesthetics.

Right now, all the higher-ups of the Ren Aesthetics were from the side branch of the Ren Family.

Gabi believed that this was the reason why Alfons wanted to get close to her grandfather. He wanted to become the heir of the Ren Family. However, in the past and present life, her grandfather wasn't some fool man. He never trusted Alfons, and he immediately made it clear that he isn't going to trust him in the future.

For this reason, Alfons helped the Sealey Family ruined the Ren Family. The plan started when Gabi married the second young master of the Sealey Family.

"Then why do this?"

Gabi smiled at the old man. "I know that brother Earl is doing good as the current VP. He had been smart and cunning. He deserves to have the company."

"Earl?"

She nodded. Her grandfather didn't just put Earl Ren as the VP of the company because he is a Ren. It was because of Earl's talents and potential. Earl Ren wasn't someone she was very close to. However, during the fall of the Ren family, the only one who didn't leave the company was none other than Earl. He was also the very same person who stayed with her grandfather on his deathbed. Earl should be about six or seven years older than her.

"I believe that he is loyal to the family and is smart enough to run the company."

"What about you?" As always, the old man was blunt about everything. He continued, "If you have no ambition to take over the company, then why are you doing this?"

"For the money."

The old man stared at her, flabbergasted. She responded with a sly smile. Bluntness can only be countered by bluntness.

"Money?"

"Yes, grandfather. I only want to receive money. Chairman and Chief Executives are really busy. I don't want that. What I want is to receive the money while doing half the work as the CEO."

"You Haha "The old man started laughing, his shoulders shook, the smiling lines on his face become even more prominent. Yet, for some reason, it was as if the old man looked a little younger. "Ah. I never expected you to be so blunt."

"Please forgive me, grandfather, my social skills are a bit lacking."

"Lacking? You call this lacking?"

She pursed her lips, eyes glittering with mischief.

"Alright. I will agree with your terms. The bidding They haven't announced any specifics about it yet. These were mere speculations from the ministers. However, I am going to let Earl give you the full authority to do what you want for us to win this bidding."

Mission accomplished. "Thank you, grandfather. I will never waste your trust."

"Ah, you misunderstood. This isn't because I trust you."

Her lips thinned. Really? Then

"This is because I trust myself. If my judgment is wrong, then I shall resign as the Chairman and give everything to my brother and Earl."

"That" Isn't that too much of a consequence? However, her grandfather said that he was doing this because he trusted his judgment. Meaning, if she fails, her grandfather would start doubting his own judgment too. And to a business executive, being unsure of your own decision is a death sentence.

"Alright I need some time with your grandfather. Go ahead and visit your mother. You should visit this resting house more often."

"Thank you, grandfather. I will definitely visit this place more."

"Good!"

Gabi could still hear her grandfather's chuckle until she decided to close the door of the study. A smile was already on her face. Gaining her grandfather's confidence felt really good. She started humming as she walked towards the first floor where the ashes of her mother were peacefully resting.

After a few minutes, she decided to go back home as she was honestly getting tired already.

"Young Miss? Do you need anything?"

"Mr. Esdras thank you. Did grandfather tell you to walk me back to the car?"

"No. I came to walk you back"

"Is there something wrong?"

"No. But I have never heard the master laugh like that for a long time. So I am honestly glad that you came."

She nodded. Her grandfather wasn't that scary, but he just looked really serious all the time. He seldom smiled and would even frown every time Alfons was around. As a child, it became obvious to her that her grandfather didn't like Alfons very much. At that time, she thought it was only because her grandfather was looking down on her cousin because he can be a bit dumb especially at school.

"Young Miss?"

"Hm?"

"If you have the time you should visit this place more."

"Why is Don't tell me grandfather is already living here?" she couldn't help but ask. Why would the old man live here? This place is basically a cemetery. Isn't that a bit scary?

"No. He doesn't sleep here. But he stays here all the time. He said he had been having dreams lately."

"Dreams?"

"He wouldn't tell me what it was, but it started around the time of your father's death."

"That "

"Since that time, the master would stay in this place all day and talk to the late Madam and the late Miss Rosa."

She furrowed her brows. Clearly, her rebirth had caused a few changes. "How about his health?" If the old man has been having bad dreams, then it only means he isn't sleeping properly, no? And once an older man like him would tire himself out, it would be easier for him to get sick.

No. Her grandfather needed to stay healthy. "Then I will visit more. And Mr. Esdras? Please prepare a chessboard and some other games next time that I visit. I will call you ahead of time."

With that, she looked back at the mansion before she smiled and got inside the car.

Chapter 504: Angry

"Where have you been?"

Gabi raised an eyebrow at Alfons, who welcomed her with an umbrella in his hand. She smiled. "Brother are you here to give me the invitation to your graduation already?"

"Gabi your body is still weak. How could you go out without guards and maids? You should "

"I went to see mother." She continued smiling. "Is there something wrong? You look furious." Of course, he would be furious. Every time Gabi went to the mansion, Alfons would accompany her. Even if Alfons wasn't really allowed to go inside because he was not a Ren, he would wait for her outside of the mansion.

At first, she thought this was because her brother cared for her so much that he is willing to stand outside of the mansion, umbrella and handkerchief in hand, just to take care of her. It convinced her that Alfons and only Alfons cared about her. Now that she thought about it, those actions seemed to isolate her from her relatives and even from her own grandfather.

It was because she knew that he was outside waiting for her, that's why she wouldn't spend some time with her relatives and immediately leave any type of gathering. She used to feel so much guilt about it that she would just leave everyone and spend some time with Alfons instead.

"Why didn't you inform me?"

"Brother? What are you talking about?" she asked. "You are so busy with your graduation. How could I disturb you? I heard that you are having problems with your thesis. I just didn't want to trouble you. That's all."

"Oh I you are right. I am indeed having trouble." He escorted her towards the main door and used the umbrella to protect her from the sun. "Speaking of my thesis"

"Ah, brother! I bought something for you." She interrupted him. She then signaled the driver that was carrying her things to approach them. "This one"

"A jewelry? You bought jewelry?"

"Ah, yes. It was supposed to be a graduation gift, but what's wrong? Are you feeling well?" Alfons was frowning. Obviously, the fact that she went out alone was making him angry. She couldn't help but wonder why he would act like she was spending his money.

"What?"

"You look Are you alright brother? You look angry. Did I do something wrong? Perhaps you didn't like my gift?"

"Of course, I like it." His frown vanished and was replaced by a sweet smile. "I just I wasn't so used to this so."

"Then you are very much welcome. No need to worry, brother. From now on, I will buy you more gifts."

"Gabi there is no need to do that. Really. You know me. I am someone who loves simple things. I am not materialistic. These things"

Gabi lowered her head. "I should have known that you wouldn't like my gift."

"Gabi"

When she lifted her head again, there were already tears in her eyes. "I knew that brother isn't the type to love material things. You only wore an old watch that father gave you. So I thought it would be good to give you a new wristwatch to congratulate you. I didn't think that brother would criticize me and call me materialistic."

"What?"

Heh, Gabi smiled inwardly.

"Gabi, I didn't say that you are "

"It's alright." She pursed her lips and avoided his gaze.

"Gabi this"

Heh. Alfons should be here because of his thesis. Isn't it the best time to show him her acting skills?

"I should go inside." She didn't wait for him to say anything as she grabbed the paper bag with all the pieces of jewelry that she bought and strode inside the mansion. She heard him call out her name, but she chose to ignore him.

That man was here because he wanted her help, and she wasn't willing to do anything for him at all. She already knew that Alfons won't stop trying to make her introduce him to her grandfather and to do that, she bought the jewelry gift for him. Why, you asked?

Because he was a hypocrite.

He would never accept such an expensive gift in front of other people.

Once he would start talking about being a simple person, she was already planning to act offended. Then use this opportunity to avoid seeing him. After all, it wasn't unusual for her to cry because of small things that made her emotional.

"Hm?" She looked at her phone, who was still vibrating. "Who is this?" she answered.

"Miss Sutton"

"This voice Are you Mr. Jeweler?"

"It's Aden."

"Oh," she nodded as she walked inside her room. She made sure to lock the door before she said. "Did you talk to Mr. Archy? What did he say?"

"He agreed to help you out."

"Really?" Suspicion grew inside her. She was expecting Archy to at least test her and asked her for more information.

"You don't believe me?"

She let out a sigh. The other party seems to be enjoying this. "Were you able to confirm the information that I gave you?"

"We are going to do a DNA test. However, it has been confirmed that there were few changes. Small ones. The previous Mr. Sealey and Mr. Sealey now are almost the same."

Gabi sat on her bed, unmoving. She wasn't expecting that Archy and his people were this fast. She knew that they were considered kings in the black market, but she thought it would take them at least a few days to figure it out.

"Miss Sutton"

"Call me Gabi."

"Then call me Aden." She could hear the other party chuckle. Was he mocking her? Irritation flashed in her eyes.

"I was planning to call you Aden, anyway!"

"Ah, you sound angry."

"I'm not."

"You are."

"I'm not!"

"I can see you turn red from where I'm at."

"What?" she immediately looked at the window and discovered that all of her curtains were closed. There was no way that this man could see her. "Are you "

"Kidding." His sweet laughter echoed on the other side. She tightened her grip on the phone.

"I am not here to joke around, Aden!" she hissed. This man she would definitely pay him back for making fun of her!

"So, you are angry."

Why was he laughing? Is there something funny? Gabi gulped as she tried to hide the anger in her voice.

Chapter 505: People

"Miss Sutton to everyone you are the weak daughter of the late Prime Minister. Who would have thought that beneath the "

"Mr. Aden, may I know what you want?" she asked, irritated.

"I am going away for a few weeks. I will see you once I get back. Let's talk about our cooperation then."

"Alright."

"However, if you need anything, go ahead and call the number that you saved "

"I didn't save any number."

"You just did."

"" Did he hacked her phone? She shivered inwardly. This was clearly a show of power. It only means that this man could be someone important. Perhaps he was Archy's trusted hacker? "You know hacking other people's phone is not very good. What if I had nudes on my phone?"

"Don't worry. I didn't check your images."

She gritted her teeth inwardly. Good thing this phone doesn't have anything important aside from the numbers of her hairstylist and seamstress. Even her doctor's number isn't on this phone, as well as some other things that could expose her. "I will forgive you this time. However, you have to do something for me."

"Oh?"

"I need people"

"How many?"

"You are not going to ask me why I need them?" she raised an eyebrow.

"No need. This is a partnership, after all. You are not someone below me."

She pursed her lips. At least this man's awareness is on point. "I need people that could do questionable things."

"Ah. I got it."

"That's it?"

"Do you need anything else?" he asked.

"No. But you didn't even ask Archy's permission." What if Archy would say no to her request?

"Oh. No need. That is an expected request."

"Was it because you already know who I am?"

"Something like that."

She nodded. She assumed that their information network is great. It only took them a couple of hours to know that she didn't have anyone that she could rely on other than herself.

"Alright. I will call that number if I need something."

"Hmmm. Do you need anything else?"

She gulped. She had a lot of plans. However, she didn't want to reveal anything to this unknown man. "No. Nothing. Please tell Archy that I appreciate his help."

"You are very much welcome, Miss Sutton. I will see you again."

Before she could reply, the person on the other line already cut off the call. A sigh escaped her lips.

It seems that going to Bobo jewelry was really the right choice. However, she can't lower her guard down. Alfons isn't the only one that she needed to get rid of. She stood and went to her study.

This place was not really an office, but more like a library. After all, she only stayed in this room to read a lot of books. "I want to remove all fiction books in this room and transfer it to the library downstairs." She ordered while pointing at the whole shelf of romance and erotic books that she used to read. Because of her lack of experience in the outside world, she clung to reading romance and other fiction novels. While she enjoyed them until now, she thought that having all these books is only taking up too much space.

"The whole shelf?" Mr. Jonathan, the butler, asked.

"Yes, all of it."

"Then"

"I want to buy newer books." Right now, she couldn't fully trust Jonathan yet. Because of this, she thought it would be good to tell him that she wanted to buy more romance books than tell him that she was planning to convert this room into an office a real one.

"Ah, take all this horror and thrillers too." She pointed at another shelf. "As well as those arts. I don't need them anymore. Find time to sort out the books in the library. I am donating those to public libraries. It would be good to donate those books instead of letting them rot here."

"Yes, miss."

"Nonim?"

"I need to hire someone as my secretary. He or she will be coming here in the next few days. Please prepare a room."

"Miss, if you are hiring someone, then I believe it is good that you inform the Young Master about it in advance he "

"Why do I need to inform him?" she asked, without looking at the butler.

"Miss, I know this is a bit presumptuous, but I heard that you are upset and "

"You are right. It is presumptuous of you to get involved in my personal matters."

"Miss!"

"Yes, Spencer Jonathan, what else do you want to say?" Finally, she removed her gaze from the shelves and looked at the butler. Spencer Jonathan was Mr. Jonathan's name. However, aside from her father, no one else called him Spencer or even mention his first name at all. "I am listening," she added.

The butler's face turned ugly. "Miss, I believe what you did earlier was wrong. I have watched you grow up with the young master and this was the first time that I saw him that hurt. He looked disappointed as he left the mansion."

"And?"

"Well I"

"What does it have to do with me hiring a secretary to help me out?" she gave him a chilling smile. "I don't understand your point, Mr. Jonathan. As the new head of the house, I would be busy taking care of everything in this estate and my father's investments. I need a secretary while you are here talking about a sad adult? I am sure this is nothing but a misunderstanding, yes?"

"Miss"

"Did I say something wrong?" she asked.

After a few seconds, Spencer shook his head. "No. The young miss is right. Please forgive me. I will not talk about this matter in the future."

"Good. Now where was I? Nonim?" Once again, a beautiful smile on her face appeared.

"The room"

"Yes. I want a room for my secretary. Also someone from the Ren Family would probably visit anytime soon. So please inform everyone about it. And of course, please prepare a room as well for the guests. I also printed each and every identity of the Ren Family members as well as foods that they are not allowed to eat. Please make sure that everyone in the kitchen is familiar with it to avoid any accidents." Since she is going to get closer and closer to the members of the Ren family, she should prepare in advance.