



The Goldflower Adventures:

A Day With Gran

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Volume 1

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The Gift

Olivia woke up excited. Why, you ask? Well, today, she was going to Grandma's house. In Olivia's mind, spending a day with Grandma was better than going to Disney World! Well, at least today it was. Not only was she lots of fun, but she was also extremely kind and loving. And, of course, it was an extra bonus that she liked to bake cakes and cookies!

“Olivia, please hurry; it’s time to go. I don’t want to be late for my conference,” said Olivia’s mom, as she put together a snack bag for the drive.

“I’m coming, Mom, but I need to get one more thing,” Olivia replied. The last time that Olivia visited Grandma, she had promised to bring her a special gift. Olivia was frantic, pulling all of the socks out of the dresser drawer looking for the gift, but it was nowhere to be found. She remembered putting it in the drawer for safekeeping, but now, all of a sudden, it was gone. She took a deep breath to calm herself down as she sat on the floor with her legs crossed. “Think, Olivia, think; it has to be here somewhere,” she whispered to herself. As she slowly looked around the room, she saw something shiny tucked away. There it was under the bed! It had fallen out of the box, but how did it

get there? *Oh, well*, she thought. *What's important is that I found it.* She smiled from ear-to-ear, thinking about how surprised and happy her grandmother was going to be once she saw the gift.

The drive to Grandma's was about two hours, so Olivia decided to make the best of it and take a nap. When they arrived, there she was on the front porch, as always, waving to them with a smile that made your heart feel welcomed. As soon as the car stopped, Olivia unfastened her seatbelt and jumped out of the backseat. She ran as fast as she could up the stairs and into her grandma's arms. Laughing sweetly, Grandma said to Olivia, "Girl, you're going to squeeze the life out of Grandma!"

Olivia laughed back and said, "Gran, you always say that," before kissing her on the cheek. Olivia called her "Gran" for short; she liked that

because it made her feel like they had special nicknames for each other. Grandma sometimes called Olivia “Sweetie” or “Suga Bear.” As she grabbed for Gran’s hand, Olivia whispered, “I have something special for you.”

Gran looked down and smiled, as she said, “Oh, you do? Well, I can’t wait to see it. It’s not my birthday, so I know it must be something wonderful!” Before walking into the house, they both turned and waved goodbye to Olivia’s mom.

“I missed you, Gran,” Olivia said, as they walked into the kitchen.

“Sweetie, I missed you, too. It gets lonesome around here, and you bring excitement to the place.”

“I do, Gran?” Olivia beamingly smiled.

“Yes, you do. So, what is this surprise that you have for me?” Grandma curiously asked.



Olivia, looking mysterious, reached into her backpack and pulled out something wrapped in a white handkerchief. She slowly unwrapped it, and there they were: a gorgeous pair of earrings.

“Oh my goodness, Baby; where in the world did you get those?”

“I saved my allowance for two months, and Mom took me to the mall last week to get them for you. They’re not expensive, but they are pretty,” said Olivia.

“It’s the thought that counts, not the price,” Grandma replied. “Oh yes, they are gorgeous! I will wear them now.” She walked into the den and stood in front of the mirror. “They are beautiful, Suga Bear, just beautiful. I will always cherish them.” She hugged Olivia tight and gave her a big kiss on the forehead.

So happy, Olivia squeezed her grand-

mother tighter, and then said, “I know, I know, I’m going to squeeze the life out of you!” They both laughed loudly.