

## M Genius 1531

### Chapter 1531

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Ret's face changed the moment he saw his sister. "What are you doing out here, Tiane?" He hastily scrambled to his feet. "Hurry... Hurry up and go back in to rest. I'm fine. We were just fooling around..."

Right then, Loki sent a kick directly toward Ret's back. "How dare you f\*cking say that we're just fooling around!"

Ret immediately turned around to give Loki a pleading look. Ret wanted the blond to play along with his narrative. However, the blond didn't care about Ret's act—he even sent another slap across Ret's face. Tiane was trembling in fear at the point, but she still staggered over to stand in front of Ret. "Don't... Don't hit my brother..."

Ret pushed her aside immediately. "Listen to me, Tiane. Go in and get some rest. I'm fine..."

The blond guy was starting to lose his patience. "F\*ck. Are you guys putting on a whole play in front of me? I want you guys to beat this girl up as well!" The few young men charged forward again, and they started throwing kicks in Tiane's direction this time. Ret weiled in terror before he pulled his sister into his arms to protect her. He turned his back against the men to ensure they couldn't hit his sister.

Robin, who was sitting by the front entrance, finally felt the need to speak up. "Hey, Loki. Tiane's seriously ill! How... How could you guys hit a child?" Loki spun around and kicked a table down before shouting and reprimanding Robin. "I don't want to hear a single word from you, you useless old men! Do you think I'm afraid to beat you up?" he hissed.

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Robin, who was sitting by the front entrance, finally felt the need to speak up. "Hey, Loki. Tiana's seriously ill! How... How could you guys hit a child?" Loki spun around and kicked a table down before shouting and raging at Robin. "I don't want to hear a single word from you, you useless old man! Do you think I'm afraid to beat you up?" he hissed.

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Robin shuddered with fear. He was too afraid to say anything after that. Meanwhile, Matthew shook his head when he saw what had just happened. He had seen all sorts of gangsters in the past, but he had never seen one as mean as Loki. Loki and his men were just like the human traffickers Matthew had met back in Eastshire. They're hitting young children and the elderly, and they're hitting the child even when she's sick. Are they still human?

At that very moment, one of the men pulled out a wad of cash from Rat's pocket. Loki lost it when he saw all the cash. "What the f\*ck? Didn't you say you don't have money? So, what the f\*ck is this?"

Rat's face changed as he quickly explained himself. "I need this money for an emergency, Loki. Please. Give me the money, Loki. I'll find a way to return you whatever I owe you... I need this money for Tiana's hospital procedures... Please, Loki. Give me the money. My sister might die otherwise..." Rat wailed and clung to Loki's leg as he begged him.

Loki simply kicked Rat aside before stuffing the money into his pocket. "This is just the interest for the sum that you owe me! I'll give you a week for the remaining amount. After that, I'll take your life if you don't return me the money by then!" After finishing his words, Loki waved an arm to signal his men to leave.

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don't return the money by then!" After finishing his words, Loki waved an arm to signal his man to leave.

Rat was bleeding from his nose and mouth, but he didn't care about his injuries. Then, he abruptly charged forward and grabbed Loki's thigh while crying. "Don't take this money away from me, Loki. I need this to save my sister. Please. I'm begging you. Please return the money... As long as you give me my money, I'll... I'll do anything you want me to... I'm begging you, Loki..."

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Loki was actually annoyed at this point, and he pulled out a dagger to place it against Rat's neck. "F\*ck you! I'm going to kill you if you don't let go of me right now!" Loki hissed. Rat's face was pale with fear, yet he still continued to cling to Loki.

Tiene, who was behind them, was crying tears of terror. However, she tried her best to rush over to them. "Don't hit my brother... You all are bad guys. Don't hit my brother..." She clung to Loki's leg and sank her teeth into his thighs. She was just a child, and she had no other way to defend herself apart from biting the men.

Loki hissed in pain before rage spread across his face. "What the f\*ck! Are you a dog? I'm going to kill you!" Loki let out a loud cry as he held his dagger high up in the air before bringing it down in Tiene's direction.

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## Chapter 1532

Matthew was standing behind the front door and lost his temper when he saw Loki attacking the young girl. Matthew abruptly involved himself in the fight as he charged forward and kicked the dagger out of Loki's hand. Both Rat and Robin were too stunned to speak—they had initially thought that Tiana wouldn't be able to survive Loki's attack. Of course, no one had expected a random guy to appear and save Tiana's life.

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Rat hastily wrapped his arms around Tiana. He was shaking with fear, and tears streamed down his cheeks as he hugged his sister. On the other hand, Robin heaved a long sigh before getting to his feet and leaving the site. Meanwhile, Loki felt as if his hand was broken after Matthew had kicked him. The blonde was infuriated as he glared at Matthew. "Who the f\*ck are you?! How dare you meddle with my business? Have you gotten tired of living?"

"How could you attack a child? Are you guys even human?" Matthew hissed in a cold tone.

"I'll do whatever I want. Do you think you can tell me what to do?" Loki retorted angrily. "F\*ck. Judging by your accent, you're probably not local, are you? Where did a piece of trash like you come from? How dare you stick your nose into my business? How am I supposed to roam these streets if I don't end your life by today?" Loki swung his arms up as he shouted to his men. "Attack him!"

The young men charged toward Matthew angrily when all of a sudden, Robin surfaced from behind them. Robin held a tiny gas tank in one hand and a lighter in the other. "Get out of here immediately!" he growled. "Or else... I'll die with all of you!" Robin held the lighter closer to the gas tank as he spoke. He looked like he was prepared to light the gas tank up at any time. Loki and the rest of his men were shocked by this approach and stumbled a few steps back.

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"This has got nothing to do with you, you old man!" Loki wagged a finger at Robin. "Don't try to get involved. You'd just be asking for trouble!"

Robin gritted his teeth in anger. "This is my clinic, and Tiana is my patient, so it makes sense for me to be involved! Are you guys going to leave or not? If you guys are staying, then... we can all die together!" Robin twisted the gas tank cap open as he held it up toward Loki and his men.

The few of them immediately scurried out of the clinic. They had no choice but to give in after encountering a man like Robin, who didn't seem to care about his own life. "I won't forget this, you old man. I'm going to come back for you! And you, you foreigner. I won't forget your face. If you make it out of Cummeal alive, I'll change my surname to yours!" Loki growled before leading his men away from the clinic.

Robin slumped onto the ground after making sure that the men had left. He had used all his strength to deal with those men earlier, so he was too tired to do anything after that. Rat held Tiana in his arms as he stood up to thank Matthew. He felt like he had just gone through a near-death experience. "Don't you remember me?" Matthew asked in a calm voice as he gazed at Rat.

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Rat only took a good look at Matthew's face then. The moment he realized who Matthew was, his face turned pale once more. "You... You..." Rat was shaking too hard to utter a proper sentence.

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Tiene, on the other hand, gazed at her brother puzzledly. "Are you my brother's friend?" she asked Matthew.

"Tiene, don't... Stop asking questions," Ret said in a trembling voice. "You should go in to get some rest..." Ret flashed Matthew a pleading look, hoping that Matthew wouldn't expose him in front of his sister. Matthew smiled and nodded in response to the young girl's words. "That's right. I'm your brother's friend! You're such a good girl, Tiene. Why don't I give you some candy as a reward?" Matthew pulled out a clay bottle and poured a pill before handing it to Tiene.

Ret's expression changed immediately. He took a good look at the pill. How is that candy? Is Matthew about to feed Tiene something poisonous? He quickly tried to stop Matthew. "Hey, Tiene... Tiene's not in good condition now, so she shouldn't... She shouldn't eat any candy..."

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## **Chapter 1533**

But Matthew didn't pay any attention to Rat at all. Instead, he simply placed the pill in Tiana's palm. "Trust me, Tiana. This candy will stop you from feeling any pain. You won't feel any pain after taking this!" Rat was still trying to stop Matthew, but Matthew held him back and stopped him from saying anything.

But Matthew didn't pay any attention to Ret either. Instead, he simply placed the pill in Tiene's palm. "Trust me, Tiene. This candy will stop you from feeling any pain. You won't feel any pain after taking



this!" Ret was still trying to stop Matthew, but Matthew held him back and stopped him from saying anything.

Tiene didn't know what was going on, so she took the pill from Matthew before putting it into her mouth. She chewed for a moment before pouting. "This is a really bitter candy!" she cried.

Matthew beamed at her. "Don't worry. It'll get sweeter after a while!" Tiene obediently chewed on the pill until she could swallow it. Only then did Matthew let go of Ret. Ret hurried over and held Tiene in his arms as he tried to make her vomit. "W-What did you give my sister? How could you do this? You could have just come for me... Why... Why did you attack a young girl instead?" But the pill was already on its way down Tiene's digestive system by then—how could she still spit it out? No matter how much Ret tried to get the pill out of her, he couldn't seem to do it at all. Ret was furious at this point.

"Tell me—what did you feed my sister?" Ret glared at Matthew angrily. Matthew simply smiled without saying anything. At that moment, Robin smacked Ret on the head. "Mr. Lane, why... Why did you just hit me?" Ret was stunned and confused at the same time.

"I'm hitting you because you're an idiot who can't differentiate between good and bad!" Robin growled.

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"What do you mean by that?" Ret asked dazedly. "Did you just ask me what I meant? If that man hadn't reached out to help you, your sister would've been stabbed to death by Loki! Are you suspecting that this man is trying to hurt your sister now? He could have just refrained from saving her earlier if he really wanted to harm her. So, why would he go through all that trouble?"

Rat's face turned red as he thought about the whole situation. I guess what Mr. Lane says is true. "Also, take a good look at your sister. Can't you tell that something's different?" Robin continued. Upon hearing Robin's words, Rat turned and gazed at his sister for a while before his eyes turned two times larger. "W-Why is your face so flushed, Tiana?" Tiana had been extremely pale before this—she looked like a patient who had been bedridden for years. But right then, there was finally some color on her face, and she no longer looked like a weak patient.

Rat wasn't the only one who was shocked—Robin was just as surprised by what he saw. "Am... am I blushing?" Tiana was confused. "I don't know!"

"Tiana, does... Do you still feel any pain in your body?" Robin hastily asked.

She shook her head. "No, it doesn't hurt anymore."

"It... It doesn't?" Rat was overjoyed. "Are you not in pain anymore?" he cried.

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Rot's foce turned red os he thought about the whole sition. I guess whot Mr. Lone soys is true. "Also, toke o good look ot your sister. Con't you tell thot something's different?" Robin continued. Upon heering Robin's words, Rot turned ond gozed ot his sister for o while before his eyes turned two times longer. "W-Why is your foce so flushed, Tiono?" Tiono hod been extremely pole before this—she looked like o potient who hod been bedridden for yeers. But right then, there wes finolly some color on her foce, ond she no longer looked like o weak potient.

Rot wasn't the only one who was shocked—Robin was just as surprised by what he saw. "Am... am I blushing?" Tiono was confused. "I don't know!"

"Tiono, does... Do you still feel any pain in your body?" Robin hostilely asked.

She shook her head. "No, it doesn't hurt anymore."

"It... It doesn't?" Rot was overjoyed. "Are you not in pain anymore?" he cried.

"What do you mean by that?" Rat asked dazedly. "Did you just ask me what I meant? If that man hadn't reached out to help you, your sister would've been stabbed to death by Loki! Are you suspecting that this man is trying to hurt your sister now? He could have just refrained from saving her earlier if he really wanted to harm her. So, why would he go through all that trouble?"

"What do you mean by that?" Rat asked dazedly. "Did you just ask me what I meant? If that man hadn't reached out to help you, your sister would've been stabbed to death by Loki! Are you suspecting that this man is trying to hurt your sister now? He could have just refrained from saving her earlier if he really wanted to harm her. So, why would he go through all that trouble?"

Rat's face turned red as he thought about the whole situation. I guess what Mr. Lana says is true. "Also, take a good look at your sister. Can't you tell that something's different?" Robin continued. Upon hearing Robin's words, Rat turned and gazed at his sister for a while before his eyes turned two times larger. "Why is your face so flushed, Tiana?" Tiana had been extremely pale before this—she looked like a patient who had been bedridden for years. But right then, there was finally some color on her face, and she no longer looked like a weak patient.

Rat wasn't the only one who was shocked—Robin was just as surprised by what he saw. "Am... am I blushing?" Tiana was confused. "I don't know!"

"Tiana, does... Do you still feel any pain in your body?" Robin hastily asked.

She shook her head. "No, it doesn't hurt anymore."

"It... It doesn't?" Rat was overjoyed. "Are you not in pain anymore?" he cried.

Robin turned to look at Matthew excitedly. "What sort of magical pill did you just give her, sir?" Rat then recalled what Matthew had said earlier when handing Tiana the pill. He said that she would no longer be in pain after taking the medicine. I thought he was just fooling a child, but I can't believe this is real!

Robin turned to look at Matthew excitedly. "What sort of magical pill did you just give her, sir?" Rat then recalled what Matthew had said earlier when handing Tiana the pill. He said that she would no longer be in pain after taking the medicine. I thought he was just fooling a child, but I can't believe this is real!

Matthew smiled. "It's not a magical pill. It's just something that can help to control her illness for a short while," he uttered.

"Tiene has been sick for three years now!" The shock was written all over Robin's face as he spoke. "In the past three years, she has gone through one major surgery, but that didn't manage to fully treat her as well. She has been in pain for the past three years—even painkillers don't work on her anymore. The most well-known doctor in Eastshire couldn't help her either. I can't believe the pill you gave her just managed to take the pain away from her. I've been a doctor my whole life, but this is the first time I've met someone as amazing as you, sir!" Robin cried.

Rat gazed at Matthew with a dumbfounded expression on his face. There was no one who knew Tiene's illness better than Rat did, and even he had to admit that what Matthew did was a miracle! Then, suddenly, he fell onto his knees with a loud thump. "You're a miracle doctor. Please... Please help my sister..."

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## **Chapter 1534**

Matthew didn't answer Rat's pleas. Instead, he looked at Tiana with a faint smile. "Tiana, I'm going out with your brother to run some errands. How about you go into the house to rest?"

Matthew didn't answer Rat's pleas. Instead, he looked at Tiene with a faint smile. "Tiene, I'm going out with your brother to run some errands. How about you go into the house to rest?"

Tiene nodded obediently in agreement. "Okay, Mr. Lerson."

With that, she ran into the house and went into her bedroom as told.

Matthew glanced at Ret, who was kneeling on the ground, and asked, "Do you wish to save your sister? If so, come with me!"

Ret immediately scrambled off the dirty ground and followed Matthew.

Finally, Matthew turned toward Robin and suggested. "Mr. Lane, I guess Hairy will return to exact his revenge. Why don't you take Tiana with you and find a hiding place?"

When Robin heard Matthew's proposal, he sighed in resignation. "That's fine with me too. I'll close early today. Take care."

Matthew nodded with a smile.

Afterward, he left the clinic with Ret, and Robin immediately shut the door.

Ret followed behind Matthew nervously as he didn't know what Matthew was planning.

They kept walking, and Matthew only halted in his tracks once they were out of the alley.

As for Ret, he stood not far behind Matthew. He had his head lowered as he kept tugging at the corner of his clothes, looking like a child who had done something wrong and was caught red-handed.

"I'm sorry, Mr. Larson. I shouldn't have stolen your stuff. Don't worry. I-I will pay you back the money as soon as possible..." Ret stammered pathetically while shifting about anxiously.

Matthew merely smiled at Ret as he observed the apprehensive man. Then, he fished out a cigarette and handed it to Ret.

He had never planned on causing trouble for Ret since the beginning.

Actually, Matthew knew that Ret wasn't an irredeemable person ever since Ret placed his wallet near the police booth.

Matthew didn't answer Ret's pleas. Instead, he looked at Tiana with a faint smile. "Tiana, I'm going out with your brother to run some errands. How about you go into the house to rest?"

Tiana nodded obediently in agreement. "Okay, Mr. Larson."

With that, she ran into the house and went into her bedroom as told.

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Later, after Matthew scrutinized how Rat was so worried about his sister and guessed why he had been leading a life of crime due to his care for his ill sister, he couldn't help but think of his past self.

At that time, I was also near desperation. Even so, I was still ready to risk everything and tried my best to keep Nat alive.

Rat is exactly the same as I was back then!

So, I decided not only would I not punish him, but I would lend him a helping hand.

Moreover, my trip to Cummeal this time is also a secret solo trip I make to investigate some matters by myself.

Hence, I will eventually need a local to help me lead the way and help me investigate the matter that was going on here.

And Rat, this local pickpocket, is the perfect guide!

With that in mind, Matthew asked, "Do you want to earn some money?"

Rat was stunned for a moment before he stared at Matthew in surprise. "W-What kind of money are we talking about?"

Matthew didn't give him the full details on what he needed Rat to do; instead, he was rather vague when he replied, "Help me get something done. Once you've completed the job successfully, I will write off the money you stole from me. Not only that, I'll give you another 300,000 and treat your sister for free. How about that?"

Rat almost cried out in joy when he heard Matthew's offer.

Therefore, he stumbled when answering in his haste to agree, "Mr. Larson, y-you don't need to give me money. As long as you can cure my sister's illness, no matter the job, I will never back down despite how perilous it might be!"

Matthew chuckled softly after hearing Rat's declaration. "It's not extremely dangerous. What I want you to do is very simple. This is my first time in Cummeal. So, I need a guide who can help me lead the way and give me a detailed explanation of the local climate in Cummeal. So, would you like to be my guide?"

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Moraovar, my trip to Cummaal this tima is also a sacrat solo trip I maka to invastigata soma mattars by mysalf.

Hanca, I will avantually naad a local to halp ma laad tha way and halp ma invastigata tha mattar that was going on hara.

And Rat, this local pickpockat, is tha parfact guida!

With that in mind, Matthaw askad, "Do you want to aarn soma monay?"

Rat was stunnad for a momant bafora ha starad at Matthaw in surprisa. "W-What kind of monay ara wa talking about?"

Matthaw didn't giva him tha full datails on what ha naadad Rat to do; instaad, ha was rathar vagua whan ha rapliad, "Halp ma gat something dona. Onca you've complatad tha job succassfully, I will writa off tha monay you stola from ma. Not only that, I'll giva you anothar 300,000 and traat your sistar for fraa. How about that?"

Rat almost criad out in joy whan ha haard Matthaw's offar.

Tharafora, ha stumblad whan answaring in his hasta to agraa, "Mr. Larson, y-you don't naad to giva ma monay. As long as you can cura my sistar's illnass, no mattar tha job, I will navar back down daspita how parilous it might ba!"

Matthaw chucklad softly aftar haaring Rat's daclaration. "It's not axtramaly dangarous. What I want you to do is vary simpla. This is my first tima in Cummaal. So, I naad a guida who can halp ma laad tha way and giva ma a datailad axplanation of tha local climata in Cummaal. So, would you lika to ba my guida?"

Rat couldn't help but be taken aback by the turn of events. He thought he would have to do something that might stain his conscience, so it never crossed his mind that the task Matthew would ask him to do was actually so simple.

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Therefore, he looked et Metthew suspiciously, wondering whet on eerth Metthew was getting et. There's no such thing es e free meel, plus curing his sister wes something worth more then one free meel.

Metthew glenced et Ret's epprehensive expression end inquired, "Whet's wrong? Do you not went to?"

Ret feered thet Metthew might go beck on his word if he disgreed, so he immedietely steted, "I-I'm willing to. M-Mr. Lerson, I'll do whetevery you went me to do!"

Metthew noddod in setisfection. "Very well. Let's go."

Ret esked in confusion, "Where ere we going?"

Matthew answered, "I'm hungry. Let's find a place to have some food first. Also—since I have just arrived here, I have to find a hotel to stay in."

Realization hit Ret, and he immediately added, "Mr. Larson, I know a hotel with pretty cheap rates. I will take you there..."

Since Matthew was rich, he didn't bother much about the price rates of the hotel. Therefore, he said, "It does not necessarily have to be cheap. Just take me to the best local hotel."

Ret glanced at Matthew in shock as he didn't expect that this non-local who came here by bus was actually a secret billionaire.

Rat couldn't help but be taken aback by the turn of events. He thought he would have to do something that might stain his conscience, so it never crossed his mind that the task Matthew would ask him to do was actually so simple.

I just have to be a guide. Any local in Cummeal can do that.

Therefore, he looked at Matthew suspiciously, wondering what on earth Matthew was getting at. There's no such thing as a free meal, plus curing his sister was something worth more than one free meal.

Matthew glanced at Rat's apprehensive expression and inquired, "What's wrong? Do you not want to?"

Rat feared that Matthew might go back on his word if he disagreed, so he immediately stated, "I-I'm willing to. M-Mr. Larson, I'll do whatever you want me to do!"

Matthew nodded in satisfaction. "Very well. Let's go."

Rat asked in confusion, "Where are we going?"

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## **Chapter 1535**

Under Rat's guidance, Matthew managed to arrange a satisfactory accommodation for himself. Later, he went out with Rat to enjoy some local delicacies.

Under Ret's guidance, Metthwe managed to arrange a satisfactory accommodation for himself. Later, he went out with Ret to enjoy some local delicacies.

Just like that, Metthwe treated his trip to Cummeel this time, as a vacation.

Ret brought Metthwe to a small local restaurant. When they entered, they saw there were quite a number of customers in the restaurant.

Once they took their seat, Ret ordered some local specialties, while Metthwe ordered some beer.

The two acted like they were friends, sitting and drinking together, enjoying their meal.

After they had chatted for a while, Ret finally let his guard down against Metthwe. As time passed, he even briefly summarized his life story and current situation to Metthwe.

Through his brief story, Metthwe learned that Ret's real name was Karl Wenderbech. However, due to his petite figure and being imprisoned for theft before, people around this area nicknamed him Mouse. Later, some people thought the nickname Mouse was somewhat positive for someone with a thieving background, so they came up with a more mocking term and called him Ret.

Over time, people kept addressing him as Ret. Just like that, many didn't know or had forgotten his real name.

Through Ret's brief life story, Metthwe also learned that he had a tragic fate. When Ret was still studying, his father died in an accident, leaving him alone with his mother and sisters to depend on each other for survival.

As for his uncles, they didn't hesitate to drive Ret, his mother, and his sister out of the house for the sake of occupying his family's homestead.

Alone, his mother raised him and his sister, who was still an infant, while struggling to make ends meet. As a result, she wore herself out and fell ill.

In desperation, Ret dropped out of school and worked part-time to subsidize the family expenditures.

Under Rat's guidance, Matthew managed to arrange a satisfactory accommodation for himself. Later, he went out with Rat to enjoy some local delicacies.

Just like that, Matthew treated his trip to Cummeal this time, as a vacation.

Rat brought Matthew to a small local restaurant. When they entered, they saw there were quite a number of customers in the restaurant.

Once they took their seat, Rat ordered some local specialties, while Matthew ordered some beer.

The two acted like they were friends, sitting and drinking together, enjoying their meal.

After they had chatted for a while, Rat finally let his guard down against Matthew. As time passed, he even briefly summarized his life story and current situation to Matthew.

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In desperation, Rat dropped out of school and worked part-time to subsidize the family expenditures.

Under Rat's guidance, Matthew managed to arrange a satisfactory accommodation for himself. Later, he went out with Rat to enjoy some local delicacies.

Nevertheless, who knew his sister would contract an extremely rare disease three years ago? Rat spent a lot of money to treat his sister's illness, but he didn't expect that there would be no cure.

Therefore, in order to treat his sister's illness, Rat took a risk and burgled once. He stole more than 200,000 and paid her surgery fee.

Nevertheless, fate seemed to treat Rat as their personal chew toy. That was because he was caught just after Tiana's surgery was over.

Eventually, instead of being convicted of burglary, he was sentenced to jail for a year on other trivial charges.

Later, Rat realized that the money from the family he stole at that time wasn't from a legal source. For that reason, they didn't dare to make a big fuss about the burglary.

Otherwise, Rat certainly would be sentenced to several years in jail for stealing so much money.

After that, Rat's mother passed away less than a month after he was released from jail. Thus, Rat had no choice but to take care of his sister alone.

Since the previous surgery didn't completely cure her sister's disease, Rat could only work hard and earn money to support her medicinal fee. So on weekdays, he would let her stay in the clinic and sustain her life with intravenous drips.

Still, Rat had to take her to the hospital every once in a while for hemodialysis. Otherwise, she would become critically ill.

Most of the time, Rat would work on the construction site to earn money.

Alas, he had borrowed and owed too much money because of his sister's illness, so he was presently deep in debt.

He knew that he would have to bring his sister for another hemodialysis session soon. Out of desperation, he slid into bad habits, considering he really was in need of cash. Therefore, he went to steal near the stop where the buses were parked. Yet, he didn't expect he would come across Matthew.

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Aftar that, Rat's mothar passad away lass than a month aftar ha was ralaasad from jail. Thus, Rat had no choica but to taka cara of his sistar alona.

Sinca tha pravius surgary didn't complataly cura har sistar's disaasa, Rat could only work hard and aarn monay to support har madicinal faa. So on waakdays, ha would lat har stay in tha clinic and sustain har lifa with intravanous drips.

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Most of tha tima, Rat would work on tha construction sita to aarn monay.

Alas, ha had borrowad and owad too much monay bacausa of his sistar's illnass, so ha was prasantly daap in dabt.

Ha knaw that ha would hava to bring his sistar for anothar hamodialysis sassion soon. Out of dasparation, ha slid into bad habits, considaring ha raally was in naad of cash. Tharafora, ha want to staal naar tha stop whara tha busas wara parkad. Yat, ha didn't axpect ha would coma across Matthaw.

Rat gripped his beer tightly as he said with tears in his eyes, "Matthew, I'm sorry. I-I was really desperate. That's why I took your wallet."

Ret gripped his beer tightly es he seid with teers in his eyes, "Metthew, I'm sorry. I-I wes reelly desperete. Thet's why I took your wellet."

Metthew only smiled lightly es he couldn't help but see himself in Ret.

Beck then, I, too, hed thought of tempting fete for the seke of Net's medicel expenses.

However, I wes lucky! I met Seshe, end I inherited our family's jede pendent.

As for Ret, he's the misereble one. He's just en ordinery Joe, yet he hes to beer so meny responsibilities.

As Metthew thought of this, he beceme even more determined to cure Tiene. He picked up his liquor gless, clenked glesses with Ret, end chuckled. "Let's not discuss thet metter. Since I hed promised to help cure your sister, I definitely won't breek my promise."

Ret wes so overjoyed thet he couldn't help the teers rolling down his cheeks. He wiped ewey his teers end seid anxiously, "Metthew, e-ere you seying thet my sister's illness cen still be cured? I heve been to the hospitel in Eestshire before, end those reputable surgeons in Eestshire told me thet only Dr. Ellis in Eestshire could cure my sister's illness. Otherwise, n-no one cen cure her in Eestshire!"

Metthew smiled feintly es he replied, "This reputable surgeon is also spewing nonsense. Even Dr. Ellis cen't cure your sister's illness! Your sister hes been diegnosed with congenitel orgen feilure. Dr. Ellis cen't cure congenitel deficiency either."

Ret's feciel expression twisted into one of despeir et Metthew's remerks.

Nevertheless, Metthew continued. "But—I cen definitely cure her!"

Rat gripped his beer tightly as he said with tears in his eyes, "Matthew, I'm sorry. I-I was really desperate. That's why I took your wallet."

Matthew only smiled lightly as he couldn't help but see himself in Rat.

Back then, I, too, had thought of tempting fate for the sake of Nat's medical expenses.

However, I was lucky! I met Sasha, and I inherited our family's jade pendant.

As for Rat, he's the miserable one. He's just an ordinary Joe, yet he has to bear so many responsibilities.

As Matthew thought of this, he became even more determined to cure Tiana. He picked up his liquor glass, clanked glasses with Rat, and chuckled. "Let's not discuss that matter. Since I had promised to help cure your sister, I definitely won't break my promise."

Rat was so overjoyed that he couldn't help the tears rolling down his cheeks. He wiped away his tears and said anxiously, "Matthew, a-are you saying that my sister's illness can still be cured? I have been to the hospital in Eastshire before, and those reputable surgeons in Eastshire told me that only Dr. Ellis in Eastshire could cure my sister's illness. Otherwise, n-no one can cure her in Eastshire!"

Matthew smiled faintly as he replied, "This reputable surgeon is also spewing nonsense. Even Dr. Ellis can't cure your sister's illness! Your sister has been diagnosed with congenital organ failure. Dr. Ellis can't cure congenital deficiency either."

Rat's facial expression twisted into one of despair at Matthew's remarks.

Nevertheless, Matthew continued. "But—I can definitely cure her!"

Rat gripped his beer tightly as he said with tears in his eyes, "Matthew, I'm sorry. I-I was really desperate. That's why I took your wallet."

## **Chapter 1536**

Rat couldn't help but stare at Matthew in shock.

Ret couldn't help but stare at Matthew in shock.

So, does this mean Matthew's medical skills are better than Dr. Ellis'?

Ret gulped at the implication and asked cautiously, "Matthew, j-just who are you exactly?"

However, Matthew didn't answer him. Instead, he asked casually, "By the way, about that guy Henry I saw today, how much do you owe him?"

Ret sighed helplessly at the thought of his debt. "It's not much... just 20,000. But he's a loan shark. I owe him 20,000, yet it rose to more than 300,000 after only three months. How can I afford to pay this kind of usury?"

Matthew frowned when he heard about that ridiculous increase in rates. "20,000 rose to more than 300,000 in just three months? Does he not think this interest he charged is way too high? He still has to



be a little disciplined, even if it's loan sharking. How can he do things in such a manner? Why is no one doing anything about this?"

Rat waved his hand. "Matthew, since you aren't a local, you don't know about this. No one dares to provoke this group of people in Cummeal. Others avoid them like the plague when they stumble upon this group of people. So, tell me: who dares to control them?"

Matthew inquired in surprise, "Really? But from what I've seen, I think they just look like a bunch of hooligans. Well, if there's nothing you can do, you can always report them to the police."

Once again, Rat sighed. "Matthew, it would be great if things could be handled so easily. But the problem is that Hairy and his men have a prominent figure backing them up. The police generally can't find any evidence or witnesses against them even if they arrest them. Once the police find it difficult to convict them, they will be released in a few days. Plus, they will exact their revenge on the one who reported them when they come out. Besides, even if the police can find evidence to convict them, they have other accomplices. Regardless, they will still take revenge on those who report them to the police. As far as I know, many people in Cummeal whose families have been ruined by them."

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Rat couldn't help but stare at Matthew in shock.

So, does this mean Matthew's medical skills are better than Dr. Ellis'?

As he listened to Rat's explanation, his facial expression gradually turned cold. He couldn't help but think of Hairy and his men as a bunch of lawless savages.

"Do you know who is backing them?" Matthew questioned.

Rat glanced at Matthew quizzically and asked, "Matthew, what exactly is the business you have in Cummeal?"

Matthew didn't answer Rat but threw a question back at him instead, "Why are you asking this?"

Rat scratched his head in embarrassment. "Uh... I-I was just curious."

After a while, Rat couldn't help his bubbling curiosity as he guessed, "Could it be that you're traveling incognito in Cummeal?"

Matthew laughed. "Travel incognito? Kid, did you watch too much TV? Do I look like someone who travels incognito to you?"

Rat laughed awkwardly and said in a low voice, "Matthew, to be honest, you don't look like one. But regarding this group of people, I personally advise you not to bother about them too much. I'll definitely help you with whatever you want me to do, but this matter is none of your business, so... t-try not to cause trouble as well. I know that you're a prominent figure yourself and not afraid of them, but it's better to avoid trouble since we're out here making a living in this society. Don't you think so?"

As he listened to Ret's explanation, his facial expression gradually turned cold. He couldn't help but think of Hairy and his men as a bunch of lawless savages.

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"Do you know who is backing them?" Matthew questioned.

Rot glanced at Matthew quizzically and asked, "Matthew, what exactly is the business you have in Cummeol?"

Matthew didn't answer Rot but threw a question back at him instead, "Why are you asking this?"

Rot scratched his head in embarrassment. "Uh... I-I was just curious."

After a while, Rot couldn't help his bubbling curiosity as he guessed, "Could it be that you're traveling incognito in Cummeol?"

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Matthew didn't answer Rat but threw a question back at him instead, "Why are you asking this?"

Rat scratched his head in embarrassment. "Uh... I-I was just curious."

After a while, Rat couldn't help his bubbling curiosity as he guessed, "Could it be that you're traveling incognito in Cummaal?"

Matthew laughed. "Travel incognito? Kid, did you watch too much TV? Do I look like someone who travels incognito to you?"

Rat laughed awkwardly and said in a low voice, "Matthew, to be honest, you don't look like one. But regarding this group of people, I personally advise you not to bother about them too much. I'll definitely help you with whatever you want me to do, but this matter is none of your business, so... try not to cause trouble as well. I know that you're a prominent figure yourself and not afraid of them, but it's better to avoid trouble since we're out here making a living in this society. Don't you think so?"

Matthew looked deeply at Rat and said calmly, "I wouldn't have helped you just now if I was afraid of getting myself into trouble."

Matthew looked deeply at Ret and said calmly, "I wouldn't have helped you just now if I was afraid of getting myself into trouble."

At those words, Ret became tongue-tied.

Later, Matthew added gently, "I once told someone that true men might not be able to take care of all affairs in the world, but at least he must take care of the immediate affairs. If you don't even have the courage to defend the weak against the strong, then what's the difference between you and a coward?"

After Ret listened to Matthew's words, he immediately gained Ret's respect.

He looked at Matthew with admiration. "Matthew, that's exactly it! I-I'm truly lucky to have known such a big shot like you!"

Matthew smiled and waved his hand when he heard Ret's compliments. "Alright. Stop talking nonsense. Tell me: who are their backers?"

Ret inhaled deeply before saying solemnly, "Matthew, you must also be a prominent figure in Eastshire. I'm not sure if you have heard of Tommy Marshall, the head of the Eastshire gang?"

Matthew looked deeply at Rat and said calmly, "I wouldn't have helped you just now if I was afraid of getting myself into trouble."

At those words, Rat became tongue-tied.

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## **Chapter 1537**

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He knew the head of the Eastshire gang all too well.

Matthew had a scuffle with Tommy back when he was in Eastshire, and it was resolved when Tommy had surrendered.

However, Matthew had never trusted the man and had even been planning recently to let Tiger take Tommy's position.

Unexpectedly, Tommy was involved in this matter in Cummeal.

"Tommy Marshall? I have heard of him," Matthew nonchalantly replied as he didn't want to divulge too much in case he gave Karl a fright.

Karl let out a sigh at that. "If you have heard of him, then you must know how powerful this underground boss is in Eastshire. As for our men in Cummeal, Tommy is the one who backs us up!"

"Really?" Matthew asked with a frown on his face. "How does he have such a widespread influence? Could you be mistaken, Rat? There is no way he would have his eyes on a city as small as Cummeal."

Hearing that, Karl waved his hand. "There is something that you don't know, Matthew. He definitely won't care about a place like this, but his wife is from Cummeal. Even though his wife lives with him in Eastshire, her old home is still in Cummeal. With her husband's background, no one here dares to get on the wife's family's bad side. And her brother, Santiago Lorenzo? He is the real head of the gang in Cummeal. Heir and the lot of them are his subordinates!"

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Matthew had a glint in his eyes. Is Tommy Marshall involved in this? he wondered.

Only then did Matthew understand how everyone was related to each other one way or another.

At that point, he couldn't help but smile. He had been thinking of a method to use to fairly get rid of Tommy, but with this, it seemed like his trip here to Cummeal hadn't been a waste of time at all! This is a pretty good excuse!

"Tell me about Santiago Lorenzo again," he instructed Karl. It was obvious how much of a grudge Karl held against Santiago with the way he went on and on about everything he knew.

It was fine when Matthew didn't know about Santiago, but he sure was surprised after hearing what Karl had to say.

The evil deeds Santiago did had way exceeded Matthew's expectations.

Anything from being a gangster, tormenting men and sullyng women, committing usury, and hurting the old and the young were but common practice for him.

Also, Santiago was an especially lustful man. There was not one woman who could escape from his grasp after he had laid eyes on them.

Apparently, he had once boasted during a friend's dinner party about how he needed to switch at least a hundred women each year.

Only a small portion of those women were voluntarily with him.

The majority of them, however, were either with him for the money, or because they were forced into it by him.

It was understandable for those who did it for the money, but the ones who were doing it against their will were truly victims of his tyranny.

Only then did Matthew understand how everyone was related to each other one way or another.

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Santiago had even violated women who had just gotten married.

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Many of those women chose the quick way out by ending their lives after they were assaulted by him, but being the shrewd man he was, he had never left behind any evidence or witness to his crime.

On top of that, he could easily appoint the best lawyer in town to get things done for him because of the background and money he came from. He could handle a lot of things quietly without raising a commotion.

That was why even the police couldn't convict him of any crime.



As Karl spoke, he sighed again. "Oh, right. He did something appalling two months ago!"

"What did he do?" Matthew asked out of curiosity.

"Two months ago, a young couple came to Cummeal to visit their relatives. The man was from Cummeal and the woman was from Stonedale. They happened to be spotted by Santiago when they came over," Rat added. "Noticing how beautiful the woman was, Santiago went ahead and approached her, but it ended up in a fight. Since Santiago had many men with him, they managed to break the man's legs while he snatched the woman with him to have his way with her. The woman couldn't take the humiliation. She ended up jumping off a building in the end."

Hearing that, Matthew only had one thought as his eyebrows pulled together into a frown. Santiago Lorenzo, you f\*cker!

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Hearing that, Matthew only had one thought as his eyebrows pulled together into a frown. Santiago Lorenzo, you f\*cker!

Santiago had even violated women who had just gotten married.

## **Chapter 1538**

Karl then continued, "This was supposed to be a normal occurrence since Santiago always did things like this. This time, however, it turned out a little different because that woman is supposedly from a wealthy and influential family. After something like this happened, a group of people came to Cummeal the next day and got Santiago directly from his house. Honestly, all of us were so happy when we thought he would die for sure. We did not expect him to come back intact less than half a day later! Not only that, he also proudly claimed that it was the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale who came forward

to save him and help him settle the issue. Also, the Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale regard him as a friend. His connections have already spanned across both Eastshire and Stonedale.

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Matthew's eyes immediately had a flash of light as soon as he heard those words.

The Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale actually are looking out for someone unimportant like Santiago? He started to brainstorm. There must be a reason why they decided to help him.

Coupled with the Neverland Pharmaceuticals incident, Matthew had a vague feeling that this might have something to do with the Restoration Pill.

It was the middle of the night already as they continued to chat.

When Karl realized it, he stood up and informed, "It has gotten late, Matthew. You should rest up. I will be here waiting for you early tomorrow morning."

"Where are you heading to now?" Matthew asked. "Heiry and his gang might still be waiting for you outside your doorstep."

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"I, uh... I will spend the night at my friend's place," Karl answered in an unsure voice as he scratched his head, making Matthew wave his hand disapprovingly.

"There's no need to torment yourself that way. Go to the front desk and have them rent you a room. I will need you to bring me somewhere tomorrow morning."

After he said that, he passed a wad of cash to Karl.

Karl hesitated as he stared at the money. Just from the looks of it, the stack seemed to easily amount to tens of thousands.

Seeing Karl remain unmoving, Matthew shoved it into his hand. "Take it. What? Do I look like someone who lacks this bit of money?"

Karl's face was filled with gratitude. "Matthew, this... Thank you so much. You have helped me a lot, and you are even giving me so much money, I... I really don't know how to show you my gratitude..."

"Geez! Don't get sentimental on me now. Have a good rest. You are going to need that energy tomorrow since I will be making stops at many places," Matthew urged while he waved again.

"Don't worry, Matthew." Karl nodded. "I won't ever get in your way!"

He then ran downstairs and got the cheapest room available. He eventually fell asleep with a heart full of gratitude and anxiety.

Matthew, on the other hand, was in no rush to sleep. Instead, he gave Tiger a call.

He wanted Tiger to make a trip to Eastshire, and think of a way to get Tommy and his wife to come all the way to Cummeal.

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Karl's face was filled with gratitude. "Matthew, this... Thank you so much. You have helped me a lot, and you are even giving me so much money, I... I really don't know how to show you my gratitude..."

"Geez! Don't get sentimental on me now. Have a good rest. You are going to need that energy tomorrow since I will be making stops at many places," Matthew urged while he waved again.

"Don't worry, Matthew." Karl nodded. "I won't ever get in your way!"

He then ran downstairs and got the cheapest room available. He eventually fell asleep with a heart full of gratitude and anxiety.

Matthew, on the other hand, was in no rush to sleep. Instead, he gave Tiger a call.

He wanted Tiger to make a trip to Eastshire, and think of a way to get Tommy and his wife to come all the way to Cummeel.

"I, uh... I will spend the night at my friend's place," Karl answered in an unsure voice as he scratched his head, making Matthew wave his hand disapprovingly.

"There's no need to torment yourself that way. Go to the front desk and have them rent you a room. I will need you to bring me somewhere tomorrow morning."

After he said that, he passed a wad of cash to Karl.

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But before that, he wanted to investigate to see whether Santiago was involved with Neverland Pharmaceuticals in any way.

After breakfast the next day, Matthew asked Karl to rest here before they set off on their journey to the small town below Cummaal.

This was the town the project manager from last time lived in.

When they arrived, Matthew followed the address, and finally reached the place near the manager's house.

However, he didn't go to the project manager directly. He told Karl to try and inquire about whether the project manager was at home so that their arrival wouldn't be alarming.

Karl did as he was told, but he came back with news that shocked Matthew—the project manager had passed away in a car accident just a week ago!

Matthew was in disbelief the moment he heard Karl's words. Isn't this a little too sudden?

Now that the manager was dead, did it mean that this was as much clue as Matthew would be able to find?

How was he going to find out whether or not the manager had some sort of connection to Neverland Pharmaceuticals?

Also, how was he going to prove that the refining method of Neverland Pharmaceuticals' Restoration Pill was stolen from Cunningham Pharmaceuticals?

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**Chapter 1539**

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How is such coincidence even possible?

The first thing that came to Metthrew was that someone was both killing people and destroying evidence.

"Have you asked about the specifics of the car accident?" he asked in a low voice.

"I did," Karl replied. "He was killed by a drunk driver who pleaded guilty. The project meneger's body has been cremated."

Hearing that, Metthrew pondered for a while before he suddenly questioned again, "How is his family doing now?"

According to the information Metthrew had gotten, the bank account of the project meneger's wife recently had a debit of 80 million.

Since the meneger is dead, how will the 80 million be split?

Perhaps, he could get some leads from the amount.

Karl sighed. "I asked about that earlier, Metthrew. Damn, he was a pitiful man. He has just passed on, but his wife has already run away with all the property. She even left his elderly parents behind and completely forgot about them."

"Where did his wife go?" Metthrew blurted out.

"Uh, I don't know about this."

Hit by a vague feeling that they would be able to find out what was wrong from the project meneger's wife, Metthrew quickly instructed Karl to conduct a thorough investigation about the wife.

As Karl was good at handling tasks like this, he actually managed to obtain information after going around and about for half a day.

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The project manager dies in a car accident after returning home right after Neverland Pharmaceuticals managed to obtain the refining method for the Restoration Pill?

According to the villagers' gossip, the project manager's wife had an affair with Santiago.

For some unknown reasons, the duo had hooked up two months ago.

There was even a rumor that the project manager's wife took the money and eloped with Santiago.

What was worse, the manager's parents seemed to have gone to Santiago, only for them to be beaten up by his men. Despite not having a proper resolution, that was the end of the issue.

After hearing that, Matthew was sure that Santiago, Neverland Pharmaceuticals, and the leak of Restoration Pill were definitely related!

The Ten Greatest Families of Stonedale must have enticed the project manager's wife through Santiago.

And after she had fallen for him, they used her to bribe the project manager to steal the refining method of the Restoration Pill.

After that, the project manager resigned and returned home, thinking that he could live the rest of his life comfortably with the 80 million he had waiting for him.

He must have never thought that he would immediately be silenced by getting killed as soon as he got home.

His wife, too, had taken all his money and left him. He had done everything, but it all turned out to be in vain.



Matthew would never sympathize with someone like him.

Cunningham Pharmaceuticals was a great company that treated their employees well, but the project manager had sold out the company's secret for his own benefit. His end almost seemed well-deserved in Matthew's eyes.

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The crux of the problem now lay with Santiago and the project manager's wife.

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Matthew estimated the time, and decided Tiger and the others were probably already on their way. They should be in Cummeel by tonight.

He would go to Santiago and get to the bottom of this by then!

After busying themselves for the whole day, he brought Karl back to the city for a rest.

Unexpectedly, Karl received a call from Henry as soon as the two returned to Cummeel.

Henry called to tell him that he had kidnapped Tiana and Robin, and he forced Karl to go to him.

Henry's voice that came from the other end of the phone was extremely arrogant as he demanded Karl to bring Matthew along with him.

Otherwise, they would have to pick up the lifeless corpses of Tiana and Robin.

After hearing his words, Karl immediately lost the strength in his legs as he plopped down on the floor.

His sister was the only relative he had. She was the reason he was alive.

Robin, too, was the one who treated them the best.

Karl knew that he wouldn't have the will to continue living if something were to happen to the two of them.

However, he knew for sure that Matthew would definitely end up dead if he were to bring him over.

Just when he was caught in a dilemma, Matthew unhesitantly commented, "He! I haven't even gone to them yet, but they have come to us! Perfect timing. At least they are saving me time."

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#### **Chapter 1540**

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In addition, Matthew gave him a glance. "What are you waiting for?"

"Let's go!"

"Go... where?" Ret queried.

"Where does Hairy want you to go?" Matthew asked.

The expression on Ret's face changed abruptly as he asked Matthew in a frantic tone, "Matthew, are you going to look for them?"

"Don't pay any attention to what they say! Hairy and his people are merciless. The location they mentioned is an abandoned factory. The fact that people are being murdered there explains why there are dead bodies being frequently discovered. They want you to go there because they want to kill you. You can't go!"

"Stay put? What then? Do you want to watch Tiana and Mr. Lene die?"

Ret abruptly stopped and was silent for a moment. Clenching his teeth, he murmured, "It'd be best if it were just me... to go alone. Since I'm to blame for this situation, I'll have to deal with it alone. Anyway, my life is not important. They might not even kill me but rather beat me up. Even if they kill me, I can rescue Tiana and Mr. Lene. If anything should happen to me there, Matthew, could you please help me rescue Tiana? I beg you. If you take care of her needs until she is grown up, you will have my eternal gratitude. I promise to pay you back in the next life."

Matthew snickered. "Why are you so anxious, Rat? Don't worry, and let's just do it together. Tiana will be just fine."

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Matthew snickered. "Why are you so anxious, Rat? Don't worry, and let's just do it together. Tiana will be just fine."

Rat gave Matthew a blank look, not understanding what he meant.

Instantaneously, Rat insisted, "You really can't go!"

"In other words, if I go alone, I'll probably be the only one killed, and they'll be fine, but if you come along, we'll both be killed. Why on earth would you want to do that?"

Matthew comforted him with a gentle pat on the shoulder before reassuring, "Neither one of us will die!"

"Relax. I will assist you in healing Tiana, but you are responsible for bringing her up on your own. You are her only family left. Can you bear watching her grow up alone?"

When Rat heard that, his eyes immediately began to fill with tears. He was particularly concerned about his sister and that he had no control over his life!

"Matthew, I appreciate your thoughtfulness and know your good intentions; however, we don't have to—"

Before Rat could convince him otherwise, Matthew cut him off. "Don't worry! I wouldn't dream of making such a hasty choice if I didn't have complete faith in myself! These hooligans are not powerful enough to kill me! Just drive. Let's go and don't waste time."

When he caught a glimpse of Matthew and saw how self-assured he was, he couldn't help but feel a sigh of relief on his own behalf. They got in the car, took off toward the suburbs, and arrived at the abandoned factory after half an hour.

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Ret stuck his head out the window and exclaimed, "Loki told us to come!"

When these men looked inside the car, they saw only Matthew and Ret, so they waved their hands and told them to get in. The two drove into the factory area and went to the warehouse in the back.

The sun had long since set, and the sky was getting dark.

Inside the warehouse, only a few lights were switched on, and a group of people could be heard chuckling and conversing loudly at the entrance. Among them was Henry. Ret pulled up to the

warehouse entrance where he and Matthew got out of the car. When Heiry first saw them, a vicious look spread across his face.

"Yo, Ret! You showed up! I was afraid you wouldn't muster the courage to show up, you coward! It's great to see you!" Loki sneered at them.

"Loki, where... Where are my sister and Mr. Lane?" Ret clenched his teeth and mumbled quietly.

Heiry replied, "Do you want to see them? Sure!"

"Drop them!"

When Heiry waved his hand, the window on the second level of the warehouse opened, revealing Tiana and Mr. Lane. They had been placed directly against the window and appeared as though they were ready to be pushed down.

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