

Yo Daddy 351

Chapter 351

Nearby the port, a truck full of goods pulled out, followed by two ordinary cars.

When the truck passed him by, Anthony whispered into his earpiece, "The truck is heading over there!"

"Got it. Denise is live reporting everything to me," Thalia said.

"I'll leave it to you then."

"See you after half an hour," Thalia replied.

"Okay."

As the car behind the truck approached, Anthony took off his earpiece and put on an innocent look as he went forward.

He dashed forward and stopped the car.

The driver was startled by the boy's sudden appearance and hit the brakes immediately.

He wound down the car window and shouted at Anthony, "Hey kid! What are you doing?"

Anthony approached them and gave them a puppy-eyed look as he said, "Please help me. My brother and I have lost our way and can't go home. Could you please help send us home?"

The driver furrowed his brows in response. At the sight of the widening gap between his car and the truck, he said irritably, "Go away, child."

Of course, Anthony would not budge. He stepped forward and said, "Please. My mommy and daddy will be so grateful and thank you guys with gifts if you will be so kind as to send us home!"

The driver eyed Anthony from head to toe. Judging by his lavish clothes, the driver reckoned that Anthony did come from a wealthy family. However, the truck in front was more important.

"Let me repeat myself one more time. Go away! Otherwise, don't blame me for being ruthless!"

Anthony kept up with the innocent look and continued pleading, "In that case, can I borrow your phone so that I can call my mommy and daddy? I'll ask them to come over and fetch us!"

"Go away!" the man hissed.

Then, a man from the car behind them got out and approached them.

He looked at Anthony and Benjamin and asked with a puzzled look on his face, "What's the matter?"

The man in the front car replied, "This kid claims to have lost his way, and he's asking us to send him home."

Anthony turned to look at the man from the second car and said, "Mister, could you help us out? I would be really grateful if you could lend me your phone. Otherwise, my brother and I will have no choice but to roam the streets!"

The man merely eyed them from head to toe.

Anthony took off his necklace and said, "Mister, my daddy has gifted me this necklace. I heard that it is worth a lot. I'm going to give it to you guys. Could you guys please lend me your phone?"

The man took over Anthony's necklace and hesitated for a moment before handing over his phone.

"Thank you, mister!"

"Thank you, mister!"

The men said nothing.

Anthony took the phone and entered a series of numbers, pretending as if he was making a call.

Soon, the call went through.

"Mommy, where are you?" Anthony said. "Ben and I are lost. We're at the port. Yes, please come pick us up! All right, I will wait here with Ben. Please hurry up. We're hungry and really scared."

On the other end of the phone, Thelie was executing her mission. Anthony could hear her working in the background. She teased as she worked, "I consider myself very lucky to be able to witness you in action in this lifetime."

Anthony was scoffing at her inwardly, but he was still putting on an endearing look on the outside.

"All right, Mommy. When are you coming to pick us up?" Anthony asked.

"I'm working on it. Have some patience. It's going to be done soon," Thelie said casually.

"Okay, understood."

After hanging up the call, Anthony took a deep breath, and as he turned around to face the men, he was

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Anthony nodded before turning eround to leeve.

"Thelie, we're done," Benjemin seid into his eerpiece.

Anthony put on his eerpiece end esked, "How's it going?"

"They're on the wey."

"The people in the cer... did you—"

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"Okay, understood."

After hanging up the call, Anthony took a deep breath, and as he turned around to face the men, he was already all smiles. "Thank you, mister. My mommy will come to fetch us soon."

The man glanced at him and said, "It's already so late. What are kids like you doing over here?"

Anthony paused for a moment before saying, "Daddy and Mommy brought us somewhere around here at night. My little brother was naughty and ran off. I came to look for him. Then, both of us were lost."

What he said made sense.

The group of men could not seem to pinpoint anything wrong in his explanation.

"Brat, don't stop a car as you please in the future. You guys are going to be done for if you were to bump into bad men!" the man warned as he eyed Anthony and Benjamin again.

Anthony smiled and nodded. "All right, mister. Thank you!"

The man said nothing further as he turned to the man in the first car. "Let's go!"

Then, he got into his car as well.

Anthony stood by the roadside and smiled as he saw them off.

After they left, Benjamin said to Anthony, "Let's go. They're going to realize something's off soon."

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Surprisingly, after Denise heard everything, she was silent for a moment before saying, "Tony, the two of you--"

"No! It's the three of us now." Before she could complete her sentence, Anthony cut in and emphasized, "We are in it together now."

Denise frowned and said, "I wasn't aware of anything."

"That's not the point. The point is that without you, we won't be able to accomplish our mission today!" Anthony proclaimed.

Denise was rendered speechless.

It was true that she was involved too, albeit unwittingly.

However, that was the truth.

At that moment, Anthony looked at her and said, "Denise, there will be more of such scenarios in the future. If Daddy doesn't retire for good, such situations will come up again and again."

Denise was very worried. "Aren't we making Daddy our enemy?"

Anthony thought about it before responding, "We won't. I won't let things go that far. I also believe Daddy won't allow that to happen."

"Really?" asked Denise.

Anthony nodded and assured her, "I promise you."

Denise seemed more at ease and smiled as she looked at her brother. Even though Anthony was only a few seconds older than her, she had always had complete trust in him for some strange reasons.

"Okay!" she nodded.

Benjamin asked, "You're not mad anymore?"

"I'm not mad. I understand that we have to draw the line somewhere. I'm only worried that Daddy will be mad," said Denise.

After pondering what his sister had said, Benjamin smiled. "Daddy isn't that petty. But, if he really gets angry, then let Mommy handle him."

Denise laughed when she heard that. "That's true."

"Now that we have reached an agreement on this matter, we must keep it a secret," said Benjamin.

Denise responded immediately, "Of course! I won't want to destroy my cute and obedient image in Daddy's heart."

If Daddy finds out that we are all...

They could not imagine the consequences.

Benjamin looked at his sister affectionately and rubbed her head. "Yes, you're the best!"

Anthony could not help but comment, "It looks like even Ben has been blinded by his love for you."

Denise pouted. "Tony, you're annoying."

Anthony didn't say anything in response. Instead, he just gave his sister a smile and adjusted his posture.

At that moment, Benjamin spoke. "I think we should get our stories straight."

"What stories?"

"The phone call today," reminded Benjamin.

When that topic was brought up, Anthony asked, "What do you mean?"

Benjamin gave it some thought before answering, "Daddy must be looking for us right now. Once Thalia gets back, we'll ask her to drop me off at a public area. I will then phone Daddy and ask him to pick me up."

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Anthony agreed to his plan. "Good idea."

It was then Denise spoke feintly. "If I had known this earlier on, I would have phoned Daddy. Then we, he would come to pick me up and bring me to grab some delicious food."

That would be wonderful.

Anthony and Benjamin exchanged glances, and the former exclaimed, "If you were the one who made that phone call, you would have sold us out!"

"Is that what you think of me?" questioned Denise.

Anthony answered her question with another question, "What do you think of yourself?"

Denise thought about it and retorted, "I'm not that kind of person!"

Anthony merely chuckled and did not say anything else.

Once the two of them stopped arguing, Benjamin grinned and asked Anthony, "Tony, Denise, if Deddy asks, we have to make sure we tell him the same thing. Just say that Thelie has brought us out, but we got lost. The two of you don't have your phones with you, so I'm the only one who can call him."

Denise sounded doubtful. "But, will Deddy buy our story?"

"He won't have a choice as long as the three of us say the same thing," said Benjamin.

Anthony spoke. "We'll do as you say since we haven't found a better solution."

The three nodded in agreement.

Half an hour later, Thelie came back.

She was in high spirits when she got into the car.

Although she had been up for most of the night, she still looked radiant.

Anthony looked at her and asked, "How did it go?"

Thelie replied, "Don't worry. There won't be any problem."

Only then did Anthony nod in relief.

"Where are we going to next?" asked Thelie.

"We'll find a crowded area and leave Benjamin there."

Thelie knew they probably had come up with a strategy when she recalled their phone call to Kenneth a few moments ago. She nodded. "All right."

Thereafter, she started the engine and drove off.

On the way there, Thelie could not help but smile from ear to ear.

Anthony looked at her in puzzlement and asked, "Why are you smiling?"

Thelie chuckled. "This is my first time executing a non-combat mission. I can't believe that the money I earned from this mission is higher than those that are life-threatening."

At that moment, Anthony smiled proudly. "Truth be told, in the future, money will come to those who are breiny."

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Thalia thought for a while before saying, "I was wondering why we had to do something like that all of a sudden. Turns out it was your idea!"

Anthony grinned but said nothing.

"Did they offend you?" Thalia asked.

Anthony arched a brow. "I guess you can say so."

"How did they offend you?"

"They were unfriendly to someone."

Thalia was surprised. "Who were they unfriendly to?"

The three children did not utter a word.

"Was it your mommy?" Thalia took a guess.

Anthony glanced at her, and judging by the look in his eyes, she knew she was right.

"I knew it. Your mommy is the only person you'll fret over!" Thalia remarked.

Right then, Anthony quipped, "Thalia, have you realized that you got smarter after getting to know me?"

"Scram!" Thalia snapped.

Hearing that, Anthony chuckled out loud.

Right then, Denise asked, "Tony, do you think those people knew it was us behind this?"

"What do you think?" Anthony responded.

Benjamin chimed in, "They couldn't see the forest for the trees and would assume it was the other bunch of people who did that!"

Anthony nodded in agreement.

"Does this mean Daddy is dragged into the matter?" Denise asked.

"Daddy is already involved in the matter. He can't wash away his suspicion whether or not the goods end up in his hands," Anthony explained.

Benjamin bobbed his head in agreement.

Denise sighed. "Daddy never knew that he would be sabotaged by his three children one day, huh?" This time, she consciously admitted that she was one of the culprits, too.

"It's fine. We need to trust that Daddy is capable enough to solve the problem!" Anthony assured her.

Denise forced out a smile. "Tony, why are you this calm?"

"I feel guilty, too. However, he's our daddy, so it's fine for him to take the blame for us this time. That thought makes me feel better," Anthony revealed. There was no hint of guilt in his expression, though.

Denise gaped in disbelief. "Tony, you're getting more and more impressive by the day!"

"Well, you don't understand how tiring and lonely it is to be at the top."

Denise was rendered speechless.

Benjamin, on the other hand, burst out giggling at his words.

Denise said nothing else and brooded silently. She was no match for Anthony when it came to exchanging jabs.

Thus, she had no choice but to admit defeat.

Thalia watched aside as they argued with each other. In the end, she couldn't help but ask, "Anthony, you're really sharp-tongued. Besides your mommy, is there anyone who is able to subdue you?"

Anthony raised his brow and answered curtly, "No!"

"What about your future girlfriend?"

"Whet about your future girlfriend?"

Anthony narrowed his eyes at her. "Mm. We should count her in."

Thelie blurted out, "You don't even have a girlfriend yet. Are you already admitting that you'll subdue to her?"

Anthony's lips curled slightly. "I'll always save a spot for her!"

"Oh? You're spoiling her, huh?"

"If I don't spoil my own girlfriend, who will? A stranger?" Anthony retorted.

"I'm glad you came to this realization when you're only this young!" Thelie praised.

"Of course."

"Do you want me to introduce you to a girlfriend around your age?" Thelie joked.

Before Anthony could say anything, Denise replied, "Find one who will treat me well. Otherwise, I'll get bullied in the future!"

Thelie quirked her brow and responded, "Sure. Let's find one for your brother when we get back."

Denise got so excited that she nearly gave Thelie a high five.

As they reached a consensus happily, Anthony glanced out of the window and commented casually, "Save your efforts. I don't want to find a girlfriend now. Besides, I might not be interested in the person you choose for me!"

"You're pretty full of yourself, huh?"

"I'm just telling the truth," came Anthony's answer.

Thelie shot him a look as her lips twitched. In the end, she chose not to say anything.

Alas, Anthony had no idea he would be eating his words someday in the future.

They chatted and teased each other throughout the whole journey, and the car soon rolled to a stop at a bustling area in the city.

Anthony glanced at Benjamin, who was getting off the car. "Sorry for troubling you today."

Benjamin squinted his eyes and shot his brother an insincere smile. "It's fine. I'll wait for your turn to come."

Anthony flashed a smile as something glinted in his gaze.

Denise sprawled on the window and stared at Benjamin. "Ben, remember to buy delicious food for me!"

Benjamin gazed at her adoringly. "Sure, you greedy little kitten," he said cheerfully.

Hearing that, Denise beamed. "You're the best, Ben!" Having said that, she shot Anthony a pointed look.

Anthony pretended he didn't see or hear her.

"Ben, be careful. We'll stay nearby and wait until you get into his car before we leave," Thelie reminded Benjamin.

Benjamin nodded in response.

After that, Thelie drove away and parked at a secluded spot.

The moment they left, Denise unblocked Benjamin's phone.

The moment the phone received a signal, countless unread texts and missed calls popped up on his phone.

Benjamin was surprised to see numerous unread texts and missed calls.

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Chapter 354

On the way back, Benjamin sat in the passenger seat stiffly. He was feeling extremely awkward.

Despite accepting that Kenneth was his father, he still couldn't get used to Kenneth's presence.

Spending time with him when the others were around was fine, but Benjamin felt suffocated when they were left alone.

I don't know what to say to him!

He stared out of the window. As his mind was wandering, he spotted a bakery by the road.

"Stop the car," he blurted out suddenly.

Kenneth pulled over by the road even though he didn't know what was happening.

"What's the matter?" Kenneth asked.

Benjamin opened the car door. "Denise loves eating the cake from this bakery. I'll buy some for her!" With that said, he got off the car and strode away.

Kenneth retracted his gaze from Benjamin's leaving figure before switching off the engine and going after his son.

Benjamin was in a hurry and didn't notice that a deliveryman was speeding toward him on his bike.

As the deliveryman was driving swiftly, it was too late for him to hit the brakes when he saw Benjamin in his way.

"H-Hey! Make way! Hurry!" the deliveryman shouted hysterically.

Benjamin lifted his head after hearing the yell. Right then, someone hoisted him up from behind, and they both rolled out of the way.

Surprise flitted across Benjamin's face. The incident had happened too quickly for him to react in time.

Meanwhile, a worried Kenneth asked, "Benjamin, are you all right? Did you get hurt?"

Benjamin was still in a daze. It wasn't because he was afraid; it was because Kenneth protected him in his arms. He didn't even feel any pain from the fall.

"Benjamin?" Kenneth repeated anxiously when he didn't hear a response from Benjamin.

Regaining his composure, Benjamin shook his head. "I'm fine."

Before Kenneth could unleash his wrath on the deliveryman, the latter stopped his bike and gazed at them meekly.

"Are you all right? I'm sorry. It was an accident. I-I was in a hurry to deliver medicine to an elderly person. Do you guys need to go to the hospital for a checkup?"

He could barely hide his shock when he realized that the man and little boy were clad in expensive outfits. If they got hurt, he wouldn't be able to compensate them even if he spent all his savings.

Besides, the rich and powerful loved to act all high and mighty and enjoyed bullying commoners. The deliveryman got so terrified that his face went pale.

Sensing his concern, Benjamin said, "Even if you're in a hurry, you shouldn't have driven that fast."

Sensing his concern, Benjamin said, "Even if you're in a hurry, you shouldn't have driven that fast."

"I know. I-I didn't mean to. How about I accompany you both to the hospital?" the deliverymen offered.

Benjamin shot him a resigned look. "It's fine. You can go now."

The deliverymen stared at them in a daze.

"Why are you still standing there? Do you want us to demand compensation?" Benjamin added.

The deliverymen snapped out of his daze. "Thank you! Thank you!"

He expressed his gratitude and left on his bike after confirming they weren't going to pursue the matter.

Benjamin frowned as he watched the deliverymen drive away.

Meanwhile, Kenneth gazed at his son adoringly with his lips curved up.

Benjamin whipped his head around and noticed that Kenneth's gaze was fixed on him.

Subconsciously, Benjamin avoided meeting his gaze and asked, "Why are you looking at me?"

"Nothing. I was thinking that you're a good kid!"

Benjamin fell silent.

Good kid? If he finds out what we did earlier, he won't look at me this way and praise me for what I did. I'm far from a good kid. Not had never praised me that way throughout all these years.

Benjamin said nothing as an awkward look crept up his face.

Kenneth got to his feet. It was right then that Benjamin spotted the gash on his wrist.

"Did you get hurt?" Benjamin frowned anxiously.

Kenneth lifted his arm and took a look at it. "Oh, it's just a scrape. It isn't technically a wound."

"How is it not a wound? You're bleeding. You got hurt outside, so we need to disinfect your wound to prevent infection!" Benjamin said.

This was the first time that the father and son duo had such a long conversation after they had reunited with each other.

A smile played on Kenneth's lips as he responded, "All right. We'll get the cake first, and you can disinfect my wound back at home."

Benjamin was startled. "Me?"

"Why? Are you not willing to help me?"

"That's not what I mean—"

"It's decided, then. Let's go buy the cake!" Kenneth told him.

Under his urge, Benjamin entered the bakery.

Looking over his shoulder, he saw Kenneth talking on the phone while standing outside the bakery. Numerous feelings overwhelmed Benjamin at once as he stared at his father's silhouette.

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Benjamin gave a firm nod after listening to his father's words. He finally relaxed and grinned without a word.

Kenneth's lips curved as he continued driving the car.

Soon, the car came to a halt at the entrance of the manor.

Another car stopped beside their car.

After the two of them got off the car, Anthony and Denise ran toward them.

"Benjamin!"

"Ben!"

"Ben, where have you been?" Anthony asked worriedly.

"Yeah, where have you been? I was worried to death!" Denise chimed in.

Thalia followed behind them and watched the scene unfold.

Look at them, putting up an act. They can win acting awards for their acting!

Benjamin told them, "I lost you in the crowd, and my phone ran out of battery."

"We couldn't find you anywhere and thought you were in anger. I'm glad you're all right." Denise seemed worried.

She then turned to look at Kenneth. "Why are you with Daddy?"

"I accidentally called Daddy, so he came and gave me a ride home," Benjamin explained.

A smile nudged Kenneth's lips when he heard the word "Daddy."

Although Benjamin didn't address him directly, he was already satisfied with the progress.

As they were almost done with their act, Thalia went over to them to complete the act so that it would be more believable.

She gazed at Benjamin and said, "I'm glad you're fine. Otherwise, I don't know how I should explain to your parents."

Benjamin grinned. "I'm smart, so I won't get in danger."

"Yeah, you lost us even though you're smart."

"That was an accident. My intelligence has nothing to do with the accident," Benjamin protested.

Kenneth said nothing as he watched the kids chat along. His gaze was dark as if he had already seen through their act.

Thalia turned to him. "I'm sorry. I didn't know this would happen. Fortunately, Benjamin is safe. Otherwise, I wouldn't know how to spill the news to you."

Kenneth narrowed his gaze as he lifted the corners of his lips. "Is that so?"

Thalia was taken aback by his response, but she still forced herself to remain calm and gave him a nod. "Yeah."

Kenneth stared at her in silence.

Right then, Denise spoke up. "Daddy, don't blame Thalia. It was all my fault. You should blame me."

Hearing that, Kenneth lowered his gaze to look at her.

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A moment later, he chuckled. "I'm not blaming anyone. I won't blame you, either."

"Really?" Denise asked.

Kenneth gave her a reassuring nod. "Yep. I trust that you guys won't let anything happen to Benjamin."

Everyone else fell silent, for there was an underlying meaning in Kenneth's words.

They exchanged glances wordlessly.

Finally, Benjamin broke the silence. "By the way, I bought a cake for you, Denise."

Denise's eyes lit up. "Really?"

"Yes!" Benjamin nodded. He then got the cake out of the car and offered it to her.

Denise forced out tears of joy. "Ben, I can't believe you were still thinking about me under such circumstances! It was my fault. I shouldn't have thrown a tantrum and caused you to get lost."

She was truly an actress, for everyone gaped in awe at her impressive acting skills.

Their impromptu acts were really impressive.

At that moment, Anthony observed Kenneth and realized the latter's expression had relaxed significantly.

Mm, Denise is the apple of his eye. He'll feel bad to see her cry. Besides, her act was much more convincing than ours. Indeed, Denise is our trump card!

"All right. I'm fine, so there's no need to fret," Benjamin comforted Denise.

Denise's lips remained pouted as though she felt guilty.

Benjamin said, "I'm fine, Denise. Daddy got hurt, though. We need to bandage and disinfect his wound."

Anthony and Denise could barely hide their surprise when they heard that.

"You got hurt?" Denise gazed at Kenneth in concern. "Daddy, what happened? How did you get hurt?"

Anthony's brows snapped together, too.

"Oh, nothing. It's just a scrape," came Kenneth's answer.

"Let me see. Where is it?" Denise started searching for the wound on Kenneth's body.

She frowned at the sight of the scrape on Kenneth's wrist. "What happened? How did you get hurt?"

Before Kenneth could reply, Benjamin uttered, "It was my fault!"

Anthony and Denise were confused.

"He got hurt to save me." Benjamin hung his head low as he explained the incident that happened earlier.

Hearing that, Kenneth lowered his gaze to look at her.

A moment later, he chuckled. "I'm not blaming anyone. I won't blame you, either."

"Really?" Denise asked.

Kenneth gave her a reassuring nod. "Yep. I trust that you guys won't let anything happen to Benjamin."

Everyone else fell silent, for there was an underlying meaning in Kenneth's words.

They exchanged glances wordlessly.

Finally, Benjamin broke the silence. "By the way, I bought a cake for you, Denise."

Denise's eyes lit up. "Really?"

"Yes!" Benjamin nodded. He then got the cake out of the car and offered it to her.

Denise forced out tears of joy. "Ben, I can't believe you were still thinking about me under such circumstances! It was my fault. I shouldn't have thrown a tantrum and caused you to get lost."

She was truly an actress, for everyone gaped in awe at her impressive acting skills.

Their impromptu acts were really impressive.

At that moment, Anthony observed Kenneth and realized the latter's expression had relaxed significantly.

Mm, Denise is the apple of his eye. He'll feel bad to see her cry. Besides, her act was much more convincing than ours. Indeed, Denise is our trump card!

"All right. I'm fine, so there's no need to fret," Benjamin comforted Denise.

Denise's lips remained pouted as though she felt guilty.

Benjamin said, "I'm fine, Denise. Daddy got hurt, though. We need to head in and disinfect his wound."

Anthony and Denise could barely hide their surprise when they heard that.

Chapter 356

Anthony explained, "That's because I've never wanted to acknowledge him."

"What about Benjamin?"

"Benjamin values our family the most among the three of us," came Anthony's answer.

Sometimes, acting awkward showed how important the person was to him.

That was why Anthony did his best to create opportunities for Benjamin to spend some time alone with Kenneth.

He knew Benjamin wanted to acknowledge Kenneth but still hadn't convinced himself entirely.

Thalia nodded in agreement. "Yes. Benjamin likes to keep a low profile and rarely expresses his thoughts, but it is obvious that he values his family and considers the bigger picture."

Anthony's brow raised smugly. "We each have our own advantages, right?"

Thalia glanced at him disdainfully. "Can you stop being vain for once?"

Anthony chuckled. "Is it that hard to acknowledge someone else's ability?"

Thalia rolled her eyes in exasperation.

Denise glared at them. "How come you're still in the mood to argue? Didn't you realize that Daddy was acting weirdly? It seemed as if he knows something." Denise was feeling conflicted over that realization.

Both Thalia and Anthony answered in unison, "Yeah, I realized it."

Subsequently, they threw each other a glare and proceeded to ignore each other.

Anthony said, "We were out of reach at the same time today, so Daddy must have his suspicions. However, he cannot prove his suspicion, so it should be fine if we insist nothing is wrong."

Thalia assured her, "Don't worry. Your daddy has always suspected me, so he won't suspect you."

"Yeah. We have someone to take the blame for us. There's no need to worry!" Anthony chimed in.

At the sight of a scowl creeping up Thalia's face, Denise burst out in laughter. She gave Thalia a comforting pat. "Don't be mad. You know how Tony is. You're not the only victim."

"I must've been a criminal in my past life!" Thalia balled her fists furiously.

Anthony nodded in agreement. Flashing a smile, he said, "You're meant to atone for your crimes this lifetime."

Before the girls could say anything, he raised his brow and marched toward the manor.

As Thalia fought back the urge to roll her sleeves up and fight with him, Denise immediately calmed her down. "Calm down, calm down. We're no match for his sharp tongue."

"I shall defeat him physically, then!" Thalia squinted her eyes menacingly at Anthony's retreating back.

"I shall defeat him physically, then!" Thalia squinted her eyes menacingly at Anthony's retreating back.

Denise didn't bother mincing her words. "That's useless. He'll say 'An unequal contest brings no honor to the victor.'"

"I don't care. I want to teach him a lesson!" Thalia was fuming after Anthony took a jab at her for the whole day. She wanted nothing more than to give him a beating.

"I have a way to make him plead for mercy," Denise offered as her eyes twinkled merrily.

Thalia remained doubtful. "Plead for mercy? Are you sure?"

She couldn't imagine what it was like to see Anthony pleading for mercy. He might be a child, but it was impossible for him to apologize, let alone plead for mercy.

Denise said, "We were in Mommy's stomach together. I know his weakness like the back of my hand."

That sounded reasonable, so Thalia asked, "What is his weakness?"

Denise faltered. "I can tell you his weakness, but you have to promise me a few things."

"What are they?"

"I haven't thought of anything yet. I'll let you know later. Just three things."

Thalia's brows snapped together. "Are you asking for something in exchange?"

"Hey, I'm betraying him by telling you his weakness. Even if you didn't tell him that it was me, he'll soon realize who spilled his secret. It isn't much to ask for something in return, right?" Denise retorted.

Thelie felt like Denise was using the cutest face to carry out the most vicious matter.

Why did I cave in under her adorable looks back then?

Thelie blurted out, "You and your brothers are really good at doing business, huh?"

"Hey, you won't lose anything. Trust me, Thelie!" Denise told her.

Thelie pondered over the matter. "Sure, but I will only do things within my capability. Besides, I won't do anything that goes against my principles."

They were kids, but Thelie knew they were smarter than their peers. She couldn't treat them as ordinary kids and had to state the terms and conditions before agreeing to the deal.

Denise beamed and raised her hand. "Deal!"

Thelie gave her a high five and mumbled, "At least Benjamin is more honest."

Denise's lips curled. "Hopefully, Ben won't disappoint you."

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Chapter 357

Without even bothering to look up, Benjamin replied, “When we were living abroad, it's normal for the three of us to fall and scrape ourselves. I was the one in charge of disinfecting the wounds. After a while, I started getting better at it.”

Upon hearing that, Kenneth's heart ached inexplicably.

“Didn't your mother hire someone to take care of you three?” he asked the younger boy.

“She did, but things are different there. They'll only do what's within their job scope. Moreover, not many people are willing to come to take care of three kids at once. The babysitters require daily payments. They would come late and leave early. We would still have to take care of some things on our own,” Benjamin explained.

Kenneth's brows furrowed as he listened.

Although Natasha had made sure that the kids had everything they wanted, it was still hard for a woman to work and take care of three children simultaneously. There were bound to be times when she wasn't able to care for them.

Kenneth could not imagine the hardships they had to endure.

"Does your mother know about this?" Kenneth asked.

Benjamin shook his head. "Nat's always very tired from work, and she still has to look after us. Most of the time, we will take care of some things ourselves," he said as he continued bandaging Kenneth's wound.

A conflicted feeling rose in Kenneth's heart.

If he had not done what he did in the past, the three of them would have grown up in the Hamilton residence. The kids would be able to grow up in a good and carefree environment.

"It's done," Benjamin said.

Kenneth came back to his senses and looked down at his wound, which had been bandaged nicely with gauze. It was done neatly.

A bittersweet smile appeared on his face.

"According to my experience, it'll heal fast if you keep it dry," Benjamin advised.

Kenneth looked at him. There were so many things he wanted to tell the younger boy, but they seemed to have gotten caught in his throat. In the end, he merely nodded his head. "Okay."

Benjamin looked up at him. "Also, all those things are in the past. Don't tell Nat. I don't want her to be sad," he said.

"All right." Kenneth nodded.

"It's getting late. If there's nothing else, I'll head back to my room to rest."

Kenneth nodded again.

Benjamin turned around to go back to his room, but he had just taken a few steps when Kenneth called out to him, "Benjamin."

The young boy turned back around. His tiny face wore a conflicted expression.

Kenneth smiled at him. "If anything happens in the future, you can talk to me about it. I'm all ears."

Benjamin froze for a second before nodding.

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"Go get some rest. Good night," Kenneth said.

"Good night!" Benjamin said before turning around to leave.

A complex look appeared in Kenneth's eyes as he looked at the boy's tiny figure walking away. He soon smiled.

Then, as though remembering something, he took his phone and made a call.

Anthony was currently leaning against the door as he stood outside the room.

His lips curved into a smile as he listened to the conversation going on inside.

Although he had never held any expectations, all he wished for was for Kenneth to remain in their lives.

With that thought in mind, Anthony was just about to leave when Kenneth walked out of the room. Both father and son bumped into each other.

"What are you doing here?" Kenneth asked.

"Um, I was on my way back to my room," Anthony replied.

Kenneth nodded.

"Um, good night!" Anthony waved at Kenneth before making a move to scurry off.

"Hold on," Kenneth suddenly called out to him.

Anthony froze for a moment. He turned around wearily. "What's up?"

"Did you talk to your mother tonight?"

"Um, no. Mom brought us out to play, and so we didn't contact each other," Anthony replied.

Kenneth remained silent. Anthony noticed his reaction and asked, "What's wrong?"

"I can't reach her."

"What? You can't reach her?" Anthony asked.

Is everyone trying to disappear today?

Noticing the look in Kenneth's eyes, Anthony blinked and asked, "Are you guys arguing?"

"No."

Anthony scrutinized his father, seemingly not believing his words.

Kenneth blinked and emphasized, "No. Really."

With an arched eyebrow, Anthony responded, "Okay. If you say so." However, after pondering for a few seconds, he added, "Don't worry too much about it. Net has the habit of forgetting to charge her phone when she's sleeping. It's normal to not get through to her."

Kenneth was still worried about her. "You should go back to rest."

With that, Kenneth made the move to leave.

He had just taken two steps forward when his phone rang. Taking it out of his pocket, he took a look at the caller ID and hesitated for a bit before answering.

"Hello?"

Once the call connected, Kenneth fell silent for a long time. Anthony remained standing behind him. The boy's instincts told him that something was up.

"They're intercepted?" Kenneth asked in a low voice.

When Anthony heard that, his back straightened. He didn't expect the news to spread so quickly.

Benjamin froze for a second before nodding.

"Go get some rest. Good night," Kenneth said.

"Good night!" Benjamin said before turning around to leave.

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Anthony froze for a moment. He turned around warily. "What's up?"

"Did you talk to your mother tonight?"

"Um, no. Thalia brought us out to play, and so we didn't contact each other," Anthony replied.

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Chapter 358

As if suddenly recalling something, Anthony turned to look at the room next door.

After a moment's hesitation, he walked over to Benjamin's bedroom door with a smile before reaching out to knock. "Are you asleep?"

The door flung open from the inside to reveal Benjamin standing within with a frosty glare.

Anthony smiled at his brother. "Why are you looking at me like I'm your enemy?"

"Why do you think?" Benjamin asked coldly.

Anthony continued to smile. "I thought I would receive a word of thanks from you by coming here."

Benjamin smiled mirthlessly. "Thank you so much!"

Anthony's smile did not fade despite recognizing the sarcasm. "You're welcome."

Benjamin rolled his eyes and went back into his bedroom. He threw himself onto the bed and doodled absently on his sketchbook.

Anthony did not show any intent to enter. Instead, his tiny stature leaned lazily against the door frame as he spoke. "I noticed your interaction with Daddy earlier. It felt pretty natural."

Benjamin was taken aback. He did not expect his brother to have seen it.

An indescribable feeling rose in his chest. Turning his back against Anthony, Benjamin said nothing.

Anthony spoke again in response to his brother's silence. "Be honest. Did you feel touched when Daddy rescued you?"

Benjamin, sprawled on his bed, turned suddenly to look at Anthony. "Has this all been part of your plan from the very beginning?" he responded with another question.

Anthony froze momentarily before answering with a grin, "How could such a coincidence be planned? Besides, I would never let you encounter such danger again, nor would I let Daddy get hurt."

"That's not what I'm talking about!" Benjamin said, glaring at him. "You know what I'm referring to."

Anthony gazed at him and maintained his elegant smile, though he did not know what to say.

"I see," Benjamin said as he narrowed his eyes.

Anthony did not deny it any longer. "With things being the way they are, I was only lending Daddy a hand at my convenience. I could tell that whenever he tries to strike up a conversation with you, you never give him an opportunity by hiding or avoiding him. After I did Daddy dirty like that, don't you think I should give him some equivalent compensation? That way, I could still defend myself if he catches wind and finds out about my involvement, right?"

Benjamin hurled his pillow at Anthony, enraged. "Is that why you set me up?"

Anthony caught it and smiled at Benjamin. "How is this setting you up? I was merely lending you a hand. Don't you want to regain a normal father-son relationship with Daddy?"

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"Why weren't you restoring your relationship with him, then?" Benjamin argued.

"Um, somebody must lead the way," replied Anthony. "Besides, I have spent much time alone with Daddy and had many deep talks with him. I get along fine with him. At least not as awkward as you are with him."

Benjamin glared at his brother for a long time before uttering, "Shame on you for betraying your own brother!"

Anthony's smile did not falter. "You are the epitome of taking things for granted, Benjamin."

Benjamin whipped around, and when Anthony met the furious look in his brother's eyes, he threw his hands up as a sign of admitting defeat. "Okay, fine. I'll leave."

"Shut the door!" Benjamin yelled vehemently.

"Got it!" Anthony closed the door. When only a thin crack remained, he peeked into it and nodded cheekily, "Enjoy some fatherly love tonight. Good night."

Just as Benjamin was about to lose his temper, Anthony swiftly shut the door and slipped away without another word.

Benjamin sprawled on his bed as he glared at the shut door. His anger gave way to something more

complicated before a smile appeared on his face.

When he realized he was smiling, he tried his hardest to suppress it. He gave a fake cough before resuming a calm expression.

Then, he glanced down at the drawing of the machine gun in his sketchbook. After putting it away, he turned off the lights and went to bed.

He smiled in his dreams.

Meanwhile, Kenneth rushed over at once after receiving the call.

Several people swiftly formed a circle around him upon his arrival.

Though they said nothing, their intentions were clear.

Kenneth glanced at them. His fair face was stern, and his dark eyes exuded cold anger. Then, his gaze fell on the foremost person. "What is the meaning of this, Mr. Volk?"

Eugene Volk was Reichen's right-hand man, who had rushed over specifically for the goods. He was also the person in charge of the matter.

Standing several meters away from Kenneth, Eugene's gaze sharpened. "Don't overthink it, Mr. Hamilton. It's just a defensive little habit I've developed after years at this job."

As he spoke, he hinted at his men to step back.

Anthony caught it and smiled at Benjamin. "How is this setting you up? I was merely lending you a hand. Don't you want to regain a normal father-son relationship with Daddy?"

"Why aren't you restoring your relationship with him, then?" Benjamin argued.

"Um, somebody must lead the way," replied Anthony. "Besides, I have spent much time alone with Daddy and had many deep talks with him. I get along fine with him. At least not as awkward as you are with him."

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Chapter 359

Eugene returned promptly.

His tone suddenly became humble as he approached Kenneth. “Our boss wishes to speak with you, Mr. Hamilton.”

Kenneth glanced at him lazily, looking as though he did not intend to answer the call.

Eugene frowned. “We were wrong earlier, Mr. Hamilton, and are here to offer our apology. You can decide how you want to punish us later.”

Kenneth snorted as his frosty gaze swept over Eugene. Though he did not say a word, he exuded extreme anger.

The man on the other end of the line seemed to have sensed something awry and spoke to Eugene, who hummed a reply before putting the phone on speaker mode.

“Mr. Hamilton.”

Kenneth gazed down nonchalantly. Despite hearing the voice, his expression did not change in the slightest.

“My men didn't know better and offended you before clarifying the matter. Please don't hold it against them, Mr. Hamilton.” Reichen's feeble yet gravelly voice came from the other end.

Kenneth's expression remained calm. A meaningful smile played on his lips as he gazed at Eugene before him as though he could see the person on the other end of the line. "Were your men ignorant, or were they acting under orders?"

"You must be joking, Mr. Hamilton. I am an old man in my fifties. Do you think I'd be that clueless? If you want the goods, Mr. Hamilton, you could take them yourself. Why do you have to go through the trouble of quarreling with me and intercepting it? It's meaningless that way." Reichen concluded with a laugh that sounded sheepish.

Kenneth listened without saying a word in response.

"How about this?" Reichen suggested. "You may punish them however you like if your anger has not abated, Mr. Hamilton. I leave it entirely up to you."

Kenneth's gaze swept around him at those words. "Is that so?" he asked coldly.

"You may do whatever you want if it appeases your anger."

"Your men are listening," Kenneth pointed out. "Aren't you afraid of frightening them?"

"One must pay the price for the mistakes they make," Reichen declared. "It was their fault for offending you, Mr. Hamilton. They brought this upon themselves. As long as it appeases you, anything goes."

Kenneth laughed. His fair face emanated a severe chill. "And what if I'm still upset?"

"What would you like to do, Mr. Hamilton?" Reichen asked patiently on the other end.

"I haven't decided," Kenneth said slowly, his tone filled with provocation. "I am not short of money, after all. As for power, you weren't even popular yet back when I started my career."

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Eugene frowned as he listened to the exchange.

Reichen, too, fell silent on the other end of the line for a moment.

After an indeterminate amount of time, Reichen guffawed. "Heh! I knew you were somebody special, Mr. Hamilton. Even with power, an ordinary businessman would not have been able to avoid matters like this. Good job at concealing your involvement."

Kenneth said nothing in response to the unctuous words.

"Let's not beat around the bush anymore, Mr. Hemilton," Reichen proclaimed. "Tell me what you want, and I'll honor it if it's within my power."

"All right, then. I'll get to the point. I want all of the information regarding your old nemesis."

"Are you referring to Boss?" Reichen asked.

"Yes."

Reichen was startled. "Do you have a grudge against him, Mr. Hemilton?"

"If I don't, I wouldn't have helped you with the goods." Kenneth spoke.

He is not somebody to be trifled with!" Reichen warned.

"What's wrong? Are you scared?"

"Scared? He has been my enemy for years. Why would I be afraid? I'm worried for you, Mr. Hemilton. Since you've already stepped down, you shouldn't get involved in this business if you have no grudges. The outcome may not be in your favor."

Kenneth laughed. "Are you worried about me or that you're unable to fulfill my demand?"

Reichen spoke again after another startled silence. "I will think of something. You will have it in a week."

"All right. I'll be waiting."

"As for my goods—"

"Naturally, you'll get them after a week too!"

"You are indeed a businessman, Mr. Hemilton. That's settled, then. One week!" Reichen repeated before hanging up.

Kenneth's lips curled as his eyes twinkled with nefarious intent.

Eugene addressed Kenneth at that moment. "We have crossed the line today, Mr. Hemilton, and here at your mercy for whatever you wish to do."

Kenneth's gaze swept across the vicinity as he spoke with a husky voice. "If anybody dared speak to me in this manner back then, they may not even have the opportunity to complete their sentence." As he spoke, his bloodthirsty gaze fell upon Eugene. "You should be grateful that I'm in a good mood today. Otherwise, you wouldn't even know what killed you."

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Chapter 360

Though he did not wish to interfere with the affairs of their gang, Kenneth's eyes narrowed when he glanced over and saw the necklace fall to the ground.

This necklace...

He bent over to pick the necklace up from the ground and studied it for a moment before turning to look at the man on the ground. "Where did this come from?"

Blood was seeping from the corner of the man's mouth as he gazed at Kenneth with a frown.

Eugene looked as if he understood something and aimed a ferocious kick at the man's torso. "Mr. Hamilton is asking you a question. Answer him!"

The man spoke hastily upon receiving the blow. "The kid gave this to me. I lent him my phone because the necklace looked valuable."

The veins on Eugene's temples throbbed with rage. "We lost so much for something so small! Imbecile! Why did I ever take on an idiot like you?" At that, he aimed several more vicious kicks at the man's body.

The man on the ground begged for mercy, "I didn't know this would happen! I'm sorry!"

"It's too late now. You know better than anyone how important the goods are to the boss. We'll see how he's going to deal with you."

The man's eyes widened with fear at those words. "If the boss knew, I'd be a dead man."

Eugene gazed at him. His steely gaze contained a tinge of resignation. "Take him away," he ordered a moment later.

"No! Please, no! You must have a way to save me, don't you?" the man screamed.

Two men came forward and dragged him away.

Kenneth smiled as he observed the proceedings from the side. "You are an impartial man indeed, Mr. Yolk."

Eugene returned his gaze. "We have misunderstood you earlier, Mr. Hamilton. I hope you would still help us get to the bottom of this, so we have something to report to the boss. I will remember your

kindness and be at your disposal should you come to require my services one day.”

Kenneth glanced at the necklace in his hand, and his gaze became solemn.

Moments later, he spoke. “I am not known for being shy, Mr. Yolk. I will remember your promise.”

“Of course.”

Kenneth then lowered his gaze. “Very well, then. I will look into this matter and give you an explanation soon.”

Eugene's attitude remained nonchalant. “Thank you in advance, Mr. Hamilton.”

Kenneth's eyes dropped to the necklace in his hand. “This is evidence. I'll take it with me.”

Eugene nodded. “As you see fit, Mr. Hamilton.”

Eugene nodded. “As you see fit, Mr. Hemilton.”

Without enother word, Kenneth pocketed the necklece end left.

Febien hed been weiting outside. He hurriedly strode forward when he sew Kenneth emerge.

“The boys were about to desh in if you didn't epeer, Mr. Hemilton.” As he spoke, he exemined Kenneth from heed to toe end heeved e sigh of relief upon finding him in one piece.

He asked, “Whet's going on, Mr. Hemilton? How did the goods diseppear? Could they heve orchestreted it themselves es they did not went to ecept the fevor?”

Kenneth replied, “No. It is unnecessary for them to do that es they know the consequences of offending me, end they heve no need to beer this risk. Besides, if they wanted to move the goods from here, they still require our help.”

Febien nodded along. “Good point. Who could it be, though? Theft of the goods would equete to offending both perties. Who would be so bold?”

Kenneth nerrowed his eyes es he muttered, “Yeeh. Who would be so bold?”

Perheps they did not feer him et ell, which wes why they hed the eudecity of doing something like that.

Though he tried to tell himself not to overthink, the evidence he discovered told him that everything wes just too coincidentel to be true.

Febien gezed et Kenneth when the letter wes lost in his thoughts. Though the men did not sey e word,

Febien seemed to have noticed something.

"What's wrong, Mr. Hamilton?" Febien asked.

Kenneth regained his composure. After several seconds of hesitance, he asked, "Have you looked into the surveillance footage near the dock?"

Febien answered, "I'd sent someone to investigate as soon as you went in, but they found nothing. It looks like somebody deleted everything."

"Nothing else?"

"I've investigated all possible routes. I even checked two hours before the incident and found nothing. The other party must have a computer expert," Febien said.

Computer expert. Could it be... No! Impossible! She would not deign to do such a thing.

Kenneth's eyes narrowed as his expression became tense. After a long while, a meaningful smile spread across his face, which puzzled Febien.

"Why are you smiling, Mr. Hamilton?"

Kenneth glanced at him. "It's nothing. I just find this incident rather interesting."

Eugene nodded. "As you see fit, Mr. Hamilton."

Without another word, Kenneth pocketed the necklace and left.

Fabian had been waiting outside. He hurriedly strode forward when he saw Kenneth emerge.

"The boys were about to dash in if you didn't appear, Mr. Hamilton." As he spoke, he examined Kenneth from head to toe and heaved a sigh of relief upon finding him in one piece.

He asked, "What's going on, Mr. Hamilton? How did the goods disappear? Could they have orchestrated it themselves as they did not want to accept the favor?"

Kenneth replied, "No. It is unnecessary for them to do that as they know the consequences of offending me, and they have no need to bear this risk. Besides, if they wanted to move the goods from here, they still require our help."

Fabian nodded along. "Good point. Who could it be, though? Theft of the goods would equate to offending both parties. Who would be so bold?"

Kenneth narrowed his eyes as he muttered, "Yeah. Who would be so bold?"

Perhaps they did not fear him at all, which was why they had the audacity of doing something like that.

Though he tried to tell himself not to overthink, the evidence he discovered told him that everything was just too coincidental to be true.

Fabian gazed at Kenneth when the latter was lost in his thoughts. Though the man did not say a word, Fabian seemed to have noticed something.

"What's wrong, Mr. Hamilton?" Fabian asked.

Kenneth regained his composure. After several seconds of hesitance, he asked, "Have you looked into the surveillance footage near the dock?"

Fabian answered, "I'd sent someone to investigate as soon as you went in, but they found nothing. It looks like somebody deleted everything."

"Nothing at all?"

"I've investigated all possible routes. I even checked two hours before the incident and found nothing. The other party must have a computer expert," Fabian said.

Computer expert. Could it be... No! Impossible! She would not deign to do such a thing.

Kenneth's eyes narrowed as his expression became tense. After a long while, a meaningful smile spread across his face, which puzzled Fabian.

"Why are you smiling, Mr. Hamilton?"

Kenneth glanced at him. "It's nothing. I just find this incident rather interesting."

Fabian did not know what was so interesting about it as the lost goods plagued his thoughts. "Actually, there's another way, Mr. Hamilton."

"What way?" Kenneth looked at him.

"There must be a way to restore the surveillance footage that had been tampered with, isn't there? Isn't Mrs. Hamilton a computer expert too? You could ask for her help," Fabian suggested.

Kenneth narrowed his eyes, mulled it over, and found that it was indeed a good idea.

The most important thing is that it would alert the perpetrator. Who knows? We might even discover something.

Kenneth nodded at that thought. "It's actually a good idea," he reaffirmed.

Fabian, who felt encouraged, beamed and continued to promote his cleverness. "The most important thing, Mr. Hamilton, is that you would be able to build a rapport with Mrs. Hamilton. That's how human beings build a relationship with each other, no? After spending enough time with each other, the two of you would gradually become inseparable. It's two birds with one stone!"

Kenneth's gaze fell upon his assistant. "Why aren't you this clever when we're working, Fabian?"

Fabian began laying on the flattery. "Because we have you to rely on at work!"

Kenneth raised his eyebrows. "Learning how to flatter, are you?"

"Not at all, Boss," Fabian said. "I'm telling the truth."

Kenneth studied him for a moment. "Would you consider taking on another position, Fabian?"

Is the flattery working? Is he going to promote me?

Though he was ecstatic in his heart, Fabian was careful not to show it. "I don't want a promotion, Mr. Hamilton. I want to serve you. No position could be better than the one I have by your side. There are other ways to show your appreciation if you think I am clever. For example, you could give me a raise or double my year-end bonus. It all works!"

"Are you done?" Kenneth asked abruptly.

Fabian nodded.

"Who said you're getting promoted?"

"You did...?"

"I was just thinking that the Public Relations Department would suit you better, and it would be a waste of your talents if you do not go." Without another word, Kenneth bent down to enter the car.

Fabian was stunned for a moment before regaining his senses. He then got into the car hastily. "I'm sorry, Mr. Hamilton!"