

## **Yo Daddy 821**

### Chapter 821 Good At Carrying Balls

After breakfast, they prepared to depart.

They were about to get into the car when Anthony's phone rang.

He frowned when he realized it was a call from a local number. A brief hesitation later, he decided to answer the call.

"Hello."

"You want to find Magus, right? I've found him. When will you come?" the person asked directly.

Anthony sat up in delight. "Where are you? I'll come over right now!"

"What about my reward? I put in a lot of effort to track him down..."

"I told you that the reward is negotiable, right? After I head there and see him, I'll transfer the money to you immediately," Anthony replied hastily.

Hearing that, the person chuckled and told him, "I've sent the location to your phone. You need to hurry up as I can't stall for time for too long!"

"If he isn't there when I arrive, you won't get the money. However, if he's there when I arrive, I'll double your pay!"

The person clenched his teeth and promised, "Okay. I promise he'll be there when you arrive."

After cutting the line, Anthony turned to look at Thalia and urged, "Come on. We've found him, so we need to leave now."

Thalia went over to him and asked, "He's been found? By who?"

"By someone we met at the night market that night, I suppose. We'll find out when we arrive." Anthony pulled the door open.

A flash of surprise appeared in Thalia's gaze. "Is that a hoax?"

"If he's a scammer, he would've escaped after getting the money. Why would he call me?" Anthony refuted.

"That's right." Thalia arched a brow and was about to enter the driver's seat when Miguel came to them. "Let me drive," he offered.

Thalia glanced at him. "Do you know the way?"

"I've been here before."

Thalia was glad to be relieved from the burden, so she hopped into the passenger seat.

The kids settled into the backseat. After getting into the car, Miguel glanced at Anthony and said, "Master, show me the address."

Anthony told him, "I've sent it to your phone."

Hearing that, Miguel fished his phone out to take a look. He then pocketed his phone and started the engine.

Thalia gave him a look. "Are you not going to use the GPS?"

"No need. I used to come here on business with Dave. I'm quite familiar with the roads here," Miguel explained.

Tholio exclaimed, "Why didn't you tell me that earlier? If I had known that you're familiar with the roads around here, I would have made you the driver these past few days!"

Miguel glanced at Anthony through the rearview mirror. Flashing a grin, he said, "It's my honor to serve you, Master."

Tholio joked, "Well, you're quite good at carrying bolls, huh?"

"If it wasn't for Master, I would've been killed by your boss last night." Miguel didn't bother mincing his words.

While he wasn't officially part of the DX Group, Dove had hired him privately and considered him to be his own. Kyle would not be pleased if he found out about this.

He was only one step away from death yesterday!

"You know everything, huh? That's great!" Tholio praised.

"Of course."

Right then, Anthony spoke without looking up. "Stop with the flattery and hurry up. If we miss him, I'll personally deliver you to the door of Dorknetz!"

Miguel insisted, "Noh, you won't do that!"

Despite that, he quickly floored the accelerator, speeding to their destination.

Twenty minutes later, they arrived at their destination.

After the car rolled to a stop, they got out of the car.

From afar, they saw the person clad in tattered clothes, looking like a beggar.

"Where is he?" Tholio asked.

Anthony glanced at the person and strode toward him.

When he came to a stop behind the person, they remained standing with their back to him, seemingly fixated on something ahead.

Miguel shot Anthony a disbelieving look. "Is this him?"

"I think so." Anthony nodded.

"Are you serious?" A look of disdain flashed across Miguel's face.

Anthony pointed out, "Don't judge a book by its cover. He was able to find Mogus, which proves he's a capable person."

Miguel didn't refute his words as he knew many talented people didn't care about their appearance.

Right then, Anthony gave him a pointed look. Miguel went over and patted the person's shoulders. "Is it you?"

Hearing his voice, the person turned over his shoulder.

At once, Miguel jolted in terror as if he was watching a horror movie in the cinema. His eyes bulged in astonishment, and he stood frozen in place.

Thalia exclaimed, "Why didn't you tell me that earlier? If I had known that you're familiar with the roads around here, I would have made you the driver these past few days!"

Miguel glanced at Anthony through the rearview mirror. Flashing a grin, he said, "It's my honor to serve you, Master."

Thalia joked, "Well, you're quite good at carrying balls, huh?"

"If it wasn't for Master, I would've been killed by your boss last night." Miguel didn't bother mincing his words.

While he wasn't officially part of the DX Group, Dave had hired him privately and considered him to be his own. Kyle would not be pleased if he found out about this.

He was only one step away from death yesterday!

"You know everything, huh? That's great!" Thalia praised.

"Of course."

Right then, Anthony spoke without looking up. "Stop with the flattery and hurry up. If we miss him, I'll personally deliver you to the door of Darknetz!"

Miguel insisted, "Nah, you won't do that!"

Despite that, he quickly floored the accelerator, speeding to their destination.

Twenty minutes later, they arrived at their destination.

After the car rolled to a stop, they got out of the car.

From afar, they saw the person clad in tattered clothes, looking like a beggar.

"Where is he?" Thalia asked.

## Chapter 822 Do You Know What Friends Are For

The man led them across a clean street walking to the back, bringing them to an abandoned two-story building.

"He's inside," the man told them.

Thalia still had her guard up. "Lead the way. There are many rooms here, so we don't know exactly which room he is in!"

The man gave her an exasperated look and led them into the building.

"I lured him here, but we'll have to keep running into each other. It's not appropriate for me to take you to him," the man clarified.

However, Thalia ignored him and observed the area warily. This man might be a scammer, so there was no telling what he would do.

She had to be careful as the kids were her responsibility.

Upstairs, the man came to a stop. "He's inside."

Thalia glanced at the locked door and noticed there wasn't any window nearby. "Open the door," she ordered.

"Here's the key," the man said as he fished it out of his pocket.

Miguel was about to take it from him, but the man pulled his hand away and gave Thalia's backpack a pointed look.

Thalia took a deep breath and pulled out another stack of money from her backpack reluctantly. Before handing the money to the man, she said, "You're being paid to settle our problems. This is the road you chose, so you shouldn't be complaining."

The man agreed, "Of course."

He seemed polite, so Thalia allowed him to take the money. The man then handed the key to Miguel.

Without hesitation, Miguel unlocked the door.

Anthony hurried into the room.

The door was wide open, but the room was empty.

Miguel turned over his shoulder to report to Thalia, "There's no one inside."

Hearing that, Thalia quickly stopped the man from leaving.

The man was surprised.

"How dare you lie to us?" Thalia narrowed her gaze dangerously.

The man quickly glanced at the room. "No way! I locked him inside personally!"

"Then where is he?" Thalia demanded.

"I'll go take a look!" The man hastily made his way to the room.

Right then, a figure emerged from behind the door, gripping a wooden chair in his hands. As soon as he revealed himself, he swung the chair and smashed it in the direction of the closest person.

By sheer luck, Anthony was standing right in the middle of the door.

Seeing that, the man yelled, "Be careful!"

All eyes turned toward Anthony. Miguel spotted the figure and quickly rushed to shield Anthony as he was standing right beside the latter.

Thump!

The chair landed on Miguel's body and crumbled into pieces upon impact.

The person was about to take the chance to escape when Miguel gave him a kick, and he crashed to the ground.

Tholio rushed over to join them.

Lying on the ground, the person glared at them and demanded, "Who are you? What do you want?"

Ignoring him, Miguel turned to look at Anthony. "Master, are you okay?" he asked worriedly.

Anthony was taken aback by Miguel's act of protection in the face of danger. He wasn't scared, but he was momentarily stunned by Miguel's actions.

Hearing the question, he shook his head. "I'm fine. What about you? Are you okay?"

Miguel assured him, "I'm fine. I'm trained for this."

As he didn't seem to be hurt, Anthony could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

The man lying on the ground was still regarding them warily. Suddenly, he pulled out a knife and pointed it at them. Seeing that, Tholio asked, "Mogus, don't you recognize me?"

The man froze and squinted his eyes. "You are..."

"Tholio Jockway," Tholio introduced herself.

Something occurred to the man as he flashed a smile. "It's you?"

"Yeah, it's me."

However, the man still showed no signs of putting his knife down. Glaring at her, he asked, "Why? Do you want me dead, too?"

Tholio corrected him, "You're mistaken. I'm not here to end your life. I have another purpose for being

here.”

The man snorted icily. “Why else would you be here?”

Anthony went straight to the topic. “Mogus, I'd like to invite you to join my team and be my friend.”

By sheer luck, Anthony was standing right in the middle of the door.

Seeing that, the man yelled, “Be careful!”

All eyes turned toward Anthony. Miguel spotted the figure and quickly rushed to shield Anthony as he was standing right beside the latter.

Thump!

The chair landed on Miguel's body and crumbled into pieces upon impact.

The person was about to take the chance to escape when Miguel gave him a kick, and he crashed to the ground.

Thalia rushed over to join them.

Lying on the ground, the person glared at them and demanded, “Who are you? What do you want?”

Ignoring him, Miguel turned to look at Anthony. “Master, are you okay?” he asked worriedly.

Anthony was taken aback by Miguel's act of protection in the face of danger. He wasn't scared, but he was momentarily stunned by Miguel's actions.

Hearing the question, he shook his head. “I'm fine. What about you? Are you okay?”

Miguel assured him, “I'm fine. I'm trained for this.”

As he didn't seem to be hurt, Anthony could finally breathe a sigh of relief.

The man lying on the ground was still regarding them warily. Suddenly, he pulled out a knife and pointed it at them. Seeing that, Thalia asked, “Magus, don't you recognize me?”

## Chapter 823 Anthony The Pretender

A person who had been hurt by betrayal would not believe such statements.

That was exactly the kind of person Magus was.

He flashed Thalia a sneer as he said, "If you know me, then you should know that I would never join any organization for the rest of my life."

"Please, believe me, Magus! In the name of my integrity, I promise that I won't lie to you!" Thalia pleaded earnestly.

"Integrity?" Magus let out a sarcastic chuckle as he continued, "To be honest, the people from before were much more sincere. What good is your integrity, huh?"

"Magus..."

He cut her off, "That's enough! I will not join you guys no matter what you say, so either kill me or release me!"

Thalia frowned and simply stared at him in silence.

"You can go," Anthony said all of a sudden.

Thalia turned to look at him, a hint of shock manifesting in her eyes. "Anthony?"

Anthony kept his gaze fixated on Magus as he continued, "As I said, I'm here to invite you, not force you. You have the right to make your own choice."

Hearing this, Magus simply turned around and left without saying another word.

Right as he brushed past Anthony at the door, Anthony called out to him, "Wait!"

Magus paused in his tracks and spun on his heel to look at the young boy. "What's the matter? Are you regretting your decision now?"

Anthony whipped out a pen and paper from his bag and wrote down a phone number. "This is my number. Feel free to call me if you ever change your mind."

Magus shot the string of numbers the boy had written a cold glare. "That won't be necessary!" he declared, then walked right out of there without looking back.

Miguel was about to run after the man, but Anthony stopped him and shook his head.

"Are we really just going to let him leave, Master?" Miguel asked.

"It's normal if he can't accept it just yet. Forcing him will only worsen the situation," Anthony replied.

"But—"



"I know what I'm doing!" Anthony cut him off.

Miguel pursed his lips and kept quiet after that.

Realizing that no one was trying to stop him, Magus turned around, glared at the person who locked him in there, and sneered, "You remember this!"

Of course, that guy did not take Magus' threat seriously. "It's not every day someone wants you, you know? You should leave. Get as far away as you can!"

"That's none of your business!" Mogus retorted and stormed off.

"Are we really going to let him go like that, Anthony?" Denise asked, a hint of anxiety coloring her words. "It will be a lot harder to find him later on!"

Anthony waited until Mogus was gone before replying, "He won't hide from us if we don't force him."

"But he won't agree to our request either!" Denise exclaimed.

The person who helped Anthony find Mogus was still there by the time Anthony stepped out the door.

Seeing the young boy, the person asked with a smile, "Well? Do you need my help with anything else?"

"That depends. What else are you able to do for me?" Anthony replied, tossing a nonchalant gaze at him.

"You name it, and I'll get it done!"

Anthony deliberately put on a clueless expression as he said, "But I don't know what I need help with!"

"You just want him, right?" the person asked after giving it some thought.

Anthony nodded. "That's right."

"He's known for being a weirdo. Countless people have tried approaching him, but their efforts all ended up in vain," the person mumbled.

"So?"

"The people who come before you were big spenders with a ton of cash to offer. You're the first one I've seen who only wants to befriend him."

Unsure if that man was insulting him or praising him, Anthony replied, "It looks like you've made quite a fortune off him!"

"Oh, no. You're the first person I've encountered!" the person replied.

"So, what exactly are you trying to say? What can you provide me with?" Anthony asked.

"Give me two days, and I shall give you a satisfactory reply. How about that?" the person said after giving it some thought.

"You only get half a day."

"That's too little time! What could I possibly find within half a day?" the person asked with a conflicted look on his face.

Anthony let out a chuckle. "You were able to lure him here despite how cautious he is, so that means you have developed a great understanding of him. I think half a day is plenty of time for you!"

Upon hearing that, the person fell silent and stared at Anthony with a mysterious look in his eyes.

"That's none of your business!" Magus retorted and stormed off.

"Are we really going to let him go like that, Anthony?" Denise asked, a hint of anxiety lacing her words. "It will be a lot harder to find him later on!"

Anthony waited until Magus was gone before replying, "He won't hide from us if we don't force him."

"But he won't agree to our request either!" Denise exclaimed.

The person who helped Anthony find Magus was still there by the time Anthony stepped out the door.

Seeing the young boy, the person asked with a smile, "Well? Do you need my help with anything else?"

"That depends. What else are you able to do for me?" Anthony replied, tossing a nonchalant gaze at him.

"You name it, and I'll get it done!"

Anthony deliberately put on a clueless expression as he said, "But I don't know what I need help with!"

"You just want him, right?" the person asked after giving it some thought.

Anthony nodded. "That's right."

"He's known for being a weirdo. Countless people have tried approaching him, but their efforts all ended up in vain," the person mumbled.

“So?”

“The people who came before you were big spenders with a ton of cash to offer. You're the first one I've seen who only wants to befriend him.”

Unsure if that man was insulting him or praising him, Anthony replied, “It looks like you've made quite a fortune off him!”

“Oh, no. You're the first person I've encountered!” the person replied.

“So, what exactly are you trying to say? What can you provide me with?” Anthony asked.

Chapter 824 I Cannot Disgrace My Boyfriend

Nevertheless, upon witnessing the grisly sight, Anthony could not pay any less attention to what he was saying and turned to look at Thalia. “We're going to a hospital!”

Miguel protested, “That's not necessary! It's just a minor injury—”

“Shut up!” Anthony cut him off, causing Miguel to obediently shut his mouth.

Thalia brushed his hair aside and briefly examined his wound. “He'll live. There's no need to get him to a hospital.”

“We can't just leave his wound like that, can we?”

Thalia got out of the car and rummaged through the trunk while the three kids watched from inside the car.

A few minutes later, they saw her retrieve a tiny box from the trunk.

It wasn't until she opened up the box inside the car that they saw the medical supplies inside.

Thalia then took out a bottle of iodine, some cotton swabs, some gauze, and a roll of tape.

After dabbing some iodine on the cotton swabs, she motioned at Miguel and said, “Here, let me treat your wound.”

Miguel flashed her a confused look. “Y-You know how to do this?”

“My boyfriend is a talented doctor. What do you think?” Thalia snapped back at him.

Miguel nodded obediently and leaned his head over toward her, only to let out a scream the moment Thalia dabbed the cotton swab on his wound.

The three kids all had terrified looks on their faces when they saw that.

“What's wrong?” Thalia asked.

“Are you sure you know how to do this?” Miguel questioned, staring at her with utter disbelief.

“Is there a problem?” Thalia retorted.

“It hurts!” he exclaimed.

That felt like someone stabbed me in the wound with something sharp!

Thalia rolled her eyes at him and said nonchalantly, “Quit being such a crybaby, will you? You're a boy, so act like one!”

“What, you think boys don't feel pain?”

“How did you even get hired by your boss? Can't you take a little bit of pain?”

“I'm in charge of supporting them from a distance! I don't fight on the frontlines with them, so why should I be able to endure pain?” Miguel protested.

Thalia arched an eyebrow at him. “I'm surprised you have the audacity to say that!”

“What's wrong with that? You know what? Forget it! I don't want to have it bandaged! We'll just leave the wound as it is!” Miguel exclaimed. He would rather bleed to death than let Thalia patch him up.

She frowned in displeasure. “What, you don't trust my skills?”

Miguel flashed her a sarcastic smile. “I am not qualified to receive your treatment!”

Being a hot-tempered person, she retorted, “No way! I will bandage your wound for you!”

“That really won't be necessary!”

“I don't care! I'm not about to disgrace my boyfriend!” Thalia insisted.

Miguel stared at her in confusion.

What is she talking about? Do I not have basic human rights now?

He then turned toward Anthony for help. “Do something, Master!”

Anthony was about to say something, but Thalia beat him to it. "If we don't treat his wound as soon as possible, it could get infected very easily!"

The look on Anthony's face changed the moment he heard that. He then turned toward Miguel and said, "Hang in there."

Miguel had nothing further to say at that point.

Thalia's lips curled into a gleeful smile as she got ready to treat him. "Come on!"

Noticing the look of despair on Miguel's face, she added, "Don't worry! I'll be gentle this time!"

"Really?"

She nodded. "Really."

Miguel hesitantly leaned his head toward her little by little.

Thalia then decided to tease him and shouted, "I'm going to do it as forcefully as possible!"

"Ah!" Miguel quickly pulled away from her in fear, only to see the rest of them laughing at him.

What? What are they all laughing at me for?

"Well? Did that hurt?" Thalia asked.

"Yes, it did!"

Thalia turned toward the three kids and said, "See, kids? This has nothing to do with my technique. It's all in his head!"

The three kids nodded in unison.

"Now, will you let me do it properly?" Thalia asked.

"No, I want to go to a hospital! Take me to a hospital, Master!" Miguel exclaimed.

"You shall not go to a hospital! That would be the ultimate form of disgrace for my boyfriend!" Thalia snapped back at him.

"Do I not have the right to decide for myself?" he asked.

Thalia shook her head. "Nope!"

“I—”

“Oh, that's enough! You'll cry and whine even if we take you to a hospital! It'll be the nurses who laugh at you, then!” Thalia cut him off and started yanking at his head.

Noticing that Miguel was trying to fight back, her expression grew stern as she continued, “You want me to do this the hard way?”

Miguel knew full well that he couldn't possibly beat Thalia in a fight, so he had no choice but to turn toward Anthony for help.

Anthony simply motioned at him to put up with it.

Miguel then shifted his gaze back toward Thalia with a helpless look in his eyes.

“I will count to three. If you won't come over, then I will go to you. Don't blame me if it hurts even more, then!” she warned him.

Miguel simply remained silent.

Chapter 825 What If I Pry Into Your Secrets

After they returned, everyone went their separate ways to do their own things.

Once Anthony got back, he opened his laptop and started working in the living hall instead of returning to his room.

He looked focused and serious when sitting in front of his laptop, which was a usual sight.

Miguel, who was busy looking for a mirror to check his injury, went up to Anthony when he saw the latter sitting in front of his laptop.

“Master, what are you doing?” Miguel asked.

Anthony's eyes were fixed on the screen. Without looking at Miguel, he replied, “Looking for some information.”

Miguel glanced at the laptop. After noticing the keywords on the screen, he knitted his brows. “Master, why do you insist on looking for him?”

“Insist? Not really,” Anthony replied.

“If that's the case, why don't you look for someone else?” Miguel asked further.

“Who do you have in mind?” Anthony stopped and glanced at him.

Miguel hesitated before replying, "Um... We can ask Dave. He knows a lot of people. We can ask him to recommend you a few!"

Upon hearing that, Anthony flashed Miguel a faint grin. "There are all kinds of talented people in the world, but you can only connect with people you can relate to. Get it?" he asked.

Miguel looked at him and shook his head innocently.

Anthony let out a helpless sigh. "It's okay. You don't have to understand." He resumed his work on his laptop.

Miguel was unfazed by Anthony's cold response. Despite being much older than Anthony, he recognized his limitations compared to Anthony's skills and had no issue deferring to him. After all, Anthony is my master and my idol!

"But Master, what if he turns you down? Have you thought of that?" Miguel asked another question.

"There are no what ifs. I'll do anything to get what I want." Anthony enunciated each word.

"I know you're capable, but the person seems like a tough nut to crack. I don't think he'll agree to come with you," Miguel analyzed.

Anthony paused for a moment and turned his attention to him. "So? What are you trying to say?"

"I..." Miguel was bereft of words. Anthony was much younger than him, but the look in the boy's eyes intimidated him. Miguel swallowed the saliva lodged in his throat and said, "I just wanted to tell you to avoid having high expectations of him. The more hopeful you are, the more disappointed you will be..."

Anthony looked at him nonchalantly and said, "Miguel, do you want to bet with me?"

"Bet on what?"

"Whether I can convince Magus to come with me!" Anthony replied.

Miguel looked at him and froze for a moment. "Are you serious?"

"You said he seems like a tough nut to crack, right? Let's bet on it," Anthony said.

Miguel gave it some thought and nodded. "All right then. What should we bet on?"

Anthony darted his eyes from side to side and said, "You wanted me to publicly acknowledge you as my disciple, right? If I can't win Magus over, I'll tell the world you're my disciple!"

Miguel's eyes immediately lit up with excitement. He was tempted to take on the bet.

"But what if you're able to convince him to go with you?" he asked.

"That means you lose the bet..." Anthony sized him up for a while. He then murmured, "But you don't have anything I want..."

His words rendered Miguel speechless. Should I feel relieved, or should I be mad at that remark? Not being remembered and not being valued doesn't feel like a form of acknowledgment at all!

"Master, I'm sure I'm not that worthless, right?" Miguel asked while looking at Anthony.

"Of course!" Anthony responded. "How about this? If you lose the bet, I want you to quit working for Mr. Dave and join my team instead."

Upon hearing that, Miguel froze for a moment.

Anthony's offer instantly reignited the emotions he had managed to steady not long ago.

There were still no members in the team, yet Miguel had complete faith that Anthony would have no trouble assembling one. Moreover, he was certain that Anthony would do an exceptional job.

Anthony continued, "You're not exactly an official member of Mr. Dave's team, and I think it's a waste of your talent. You might as well join me. I'll give you the freedom to choose any position you want on the team!"

That was an utterly tempting offer!

The fact that Anthony was his mentor and his idol made it even more difficult for Miguel to reject the offer.

"What's wrong? Not interested in my offer?" Anthony asked.

"Of course not!" Miguel exclaimed, "I'm more than willing to come over, but Dave..." he hesitated for a moment before continuing, "I'm not exactly 'non-official.' It was just because there were no vacancies in DX at that moment. Dave could have made some adjustments and pulled me into the organization, but he was afraid that I might not be compensated accordingly. That's why I've been working for him independently. Nonetheless, Dave has always given me what I deserve..."

"I'll give you whatever your expected salary is!" said Anthony, emphasizing each word as he looked at Miguel.

Upon hearing that, Miguel immediately explained, "No, that's not what I meant. It's not about the money. I just feel Dave takes good care of me. If I were to leave him like that..."



"You're afraid that Dave might get upset about it?" Anthony asked.

Miguel inclined his head in acknowledgment.

Anthony thought about it for a while before glancing at him. "You have to follow your heart. Do you want to join my team? If the answer's yes, I'll talk to Mr. Dave on your behalf. You can't let gratitude hold you back from your future forever."

## Chapter 826 Progress

Anthony sat right beside Miguel. Instead of looking at the latter or the laptop, he was texting someone on his phone.

Even after hearing Miguel, Anthony continued to type as he responded, "Are you aware that trouble won't find you unless you ask for it?"

"Uh... Yes."

It was then that Anthony lifted his head and smiled at Miguel. "Glad you know that. You should think first if you're capable of doing that."

Miguel grinned in return. "I was just joking."

After rolling his eyes at Miguel, Anthony turned his attention back to his phone and resumed texting Natasha.

As for Miguel, he sighed and began looking for the files again.

Time ticked by.

While Miguel searched through the laptop, he would frown occasionally. Ten minutes later, Anthony piped up, "How is it going? Ten minutes is almost up."

"You were actually timing?"

"Duh. You have thirty seconds left. Twenty-nine. Twenty-eight—"

"I'm almost done!" Miguel yelled, his fingers flying across the keyboard.

Anthony merely shot him a glance before going on, "Ten... Nine... Eight... Seven..."

Miguel sped up along with Anthony's countdown. Finally, in the final three seconds, Miguel hit the last key and announced, "Done."

He finished just in time.

When Anthony looked at Miguel, the latter nudged the laptop over and chirped, "This is everything I found."

Without a word, Anthony glanced at Miguel and then at the screen.

Miguel explained, "There isn't much information about Magus. They used to commit crimes as a gang, so the only notable incident about him was when his gang abandoned him. I checked the prison he was in and hacked their system, and I managed to find his confession and the videos of their crimes in action. Everything is here. Please take a look."

At the sight of the neatly arranged files in the folder, Anthony curled his lips up. "Not bad."

"I didn't embarrass you, did I?"

"You finished it at the last minute, yet you're proud of it?"

"That's because I didn't expect you to time me for real. If I had known, I would have finished the task earlier!"

"Whatever you say," replied Anthony nonchalantly while staring at the computer screen.

"I'm telling the truth."

Miguel knew that Anthony was actually training him, so he was secretly delighted. After all, even just a few words of compliment from Anthony meant he was progressing.

In this aspect, Miguel was quite insightful.

As Anthony went through the files, he noticed there was indeed limited information on Magus. They only knew that Magus was deserted by his gang members, which led him to be arrested and leave a record behind.

Miguel moved closer to Anthony and pointed out, "This was Magus' confession. Although he was betrayed by his gang, he did not name the other members. He said nothing in court and shouldered everything himself." Following a short pause, Miguel couldn't help lamenting out loud. "This guy is surprisingly loyal. I can't believe he did that even when they turned their backs on him!"

His words brought a frown to Anthony's face. Perhaps it was just his personality, but Anthony would never let the betrayers off if something like this were to happen to him.

That was, however, his own opinion.

At that thought, Anthony turned to Miguel. "If you were Magus, what would you do?"

"I'd rat them out for sure. Of course, we should serve our prison time together!" Miguel answered without hesitation.

"Really?"

Miguel straightened his back right away. "Of course. I wouldn't complain if they accidentally left me behind, but I heard countless rumors saying the gang did that on purpose so someone could take the blame. In that case, why should I let them off?" Miguel spoke passionately as if he were the one who was betrayed, and just imagining the situation made him feel angry.

Mulling over what Miguel said, Anthony narrowed his eyes. "Right. Anyone in their right mind would do that, let alone Magus, who abhors injustice."

Miguel realized the same thing right when Anthony said that. "You're right..." he agreed.

"Something about this feels off," Anthony muttered.

An idea seemed to occur to him as he quickly searched for something on the computer, but he furrowed his brows after a while.

"What's wrong?" Miguel queried.

"There are no records about their crimes and his gang members. We might be able to find something if there were any."

"Yeah. Miguel took the blame alone back then, so there are no records of the others at all."

While they were deep in thought, Thalia walked out and noticed their pensive expressions. Leaning toward them, she asked, "What are you guys doing?"

"Contemplating," said Miguel flatly.

Chapter 827 We Will Not Harm You

A moment later, Thalia ventured, "If I'm not mistaken... the man's name is Doggo?"

As soon as she had said that, Anthony and Miguel both wore skeptical expressions on their faces.

"Doggo? You're certain?" Miguel asked incredulously.

Who would name himself such? Even dogs have proper names nowadays. Why would he regress and use a dog's name for himself?

At that, Thalia frowned. "Wait a moment. Let me rack my brain for a bit..." With her lovely brows knitted together, she mulled it over solemnly. Some time passed before she abruptly remembered the name. "Oh yes, the man's name is Diego!"

"Diego? Are you absolutely sure?" Anthony's eyes were fixed on her.

"Yeah, it's Diego, all right. I remember I even investigated him back then and once saw a photo of him!" Thalia asserted.

Anthony shifted his gaze to the laptop screen. It so happened that it displayed the information Miguel found, a picture of a man holding a gun. Seeing that, he immediately turned it to face Thalia. "Is this the man?"

Thalia leaned forward for a closer look. In the next heartbeat, she slammed her hand on the table. "Yes, it's him!"

"Are you really sure, Thalia?" Anthony queried, afraid that she might have gotten things mixed up in her mind.

"I'm a hundred percent sure because this was the photo I saw at that time!" Thalia enunciated.

Hearing that, Anthony instantly turned the laptop back to face himself. "Got it!" After he had said that, his fingers flew across the keyboard. In no time, he found some leads on Diego.

"Gotcha!" he crowed.

At once, Miguel crowded over. "What did you find?"

"There's not much on him, only this portrait photo of him that was taken inadvertently... Eh, wait. That's not right. He seems to have been arrested when he committed a crime two years ago. Coincidentally, he's imprisoned right here!" While saying that, Anthony swung his gaze to Miguel and Thalia.

Thalia sat across from them and did not crowd over for a look, but her eyes narrowed a fraction when she glimpsed the look in his eyes. "What are you up to now?"

Anthony held her gaze. "Thalia, you must have some connections here as well, right?"

"Don't tell me you want to go—"

"Yup!" Anthony interjected before she could even finish her utterance, his eyes on her glinting with sheer determination.

Thalia inhaled deeply. "It's not difficult to make arrangements for that, but is there a point in doing so?"

"I can't tell for sure, but I know we'll definitely gain something by going there!" Anthony maintained.

A slight frown marred Thalia's countenance. Defeated by his penetrating stare, she finally shot to her feet irritably. "Got it! I'll go and make the arrangements right away!"

"Can you make it today?" Anthony asked.

Jerking her head back, Thalia glared at him. "Why don't you just ask for an immediate meeting?"

"That works, too! I can leave anytime!"

"Argh!"

"I believe that it's undoubtedly a trivial matter, considering your capabilities!" Anthony exclaimed.

Since he had flattered her such, there was no reason for Thalia not to unleash her capabilities.

Sweeping a gaze over him, she boasted, "Well, you're right. It's indeed a trivial matter!" With that said, she walked away with her phone in hand.

Anthony shared a look with Miguel, upon which Miguel wondered, "Is she really that powerful?"

"Are you looking down on Darknetz Ace?" Anthony retorted.

The instant Miguel heard that, he bobbed his head. "Ah, that's true!"

"Perhaps you can consider joining Darknetz?" Anthony drawled.

However, Miguel promptly declined, "Forget it. I'm scared Dave would kill me!"

"Were you not scared Mr. Dave would kill you when you joined my team, then?" Anthony countered.

"That's different. Speaking of that, I acknowledge you alone. Besides, Dave treats you differently. You're his best friend's son, so he won't have any objections if I join your team. But if I join Darknetz, it'd be another story altogether!" Miguel explained. Although he had aspirations and dreams, he also had his bottom line. At the end of the day, there were some rules he would never break.

Eyeing the man, Anthony said nothing further. He shifted his gaze to the laptop. Nonetheless, a ton of conjectures were already playing in his mind then. Just as his thoughts were running wild, Thalia returned.

She walked right up to him and declared, "Let's go."

Upon hearing that, Anthony raised his eyes to her. "You've made the arrangements?"

"How could I disappoint you when you've already praised me to the skies?" Thalia riposted.

At the confirmation, Anthony swiftly stood up and put the laptop away. Beside him, Miguel stammered, "C-Can I go?"

"Who's going to drive if you don't go?"

When Miguel heard that, he quickly rushed forward in delight to help carry Anthony's bag. "Allow me, Master!"

Anthony shot him a look. "You're growing increasingly tactful!"

"Of course!"

Despite Anthony's remark, he did not release his hold on the bag. "I'll carry it myself. I'm not in the habit of having someone else handle my laptop."

Miguel knew that every hacker had their own habits. Moreover, their laptops were their core possession. Hence, it was only natural that Anthony was reluctant to allow others to touch his laptop. For that reason, he did not insist.

As they were gearing up to set out, Benjamin and Denise walked out of the house. "You're all going out, Tony?"

Only when Anthony caught sight of them did he remember about them. "Yeah, we're going out to settle something. Would you both like to tag along?"

Glancing over her shoulder, Denise exchanged a look with Benjamin.

Chapter 828 Anthony Is Downright Terrifying

As soon as Anthony spoke, Diego's gaze went to him.

Initially, he did not pay much mind to Anthony, assuming that the latter was merely a child. It was not until Anthony started talking that he perceived something out of the ordinary, thanks to his years of experience in the underground circles.

Hmm, this kid is something else.

He regarded Anthony with a grim look in his eyes. "Why should I trust you?"

"You're already in prison, and for such a long time at that. Is there still any need for me to sabotage you?" Anthony questioned.

Diego merely listened without saying anything.

Without beating around the bush, Anthony bored his eyes into the man and cut straight to the chase right then and there. "We came to seek you out to ask you about someone," he revealed.

Diego's gaze radiated chilliness and disdain. He lifted his eyes languidly. "Who?"

"Twelve years ago, you and a few others stole a genuine painting known as 'Darkness' in Yartran. Do you still remember that?" Anthony asked.

Upon hearing that, Diego narrowed his eyes dangerously. A moment later, he chuckled out of the blue. "I don't know what you're talking about."

Seeing right through him, Thalia reassured, "Don't worry, for we're not here to feel you out. You might be spending the rest of your life here, so there's no need for us to charge you with another crime."

Despite having been exposed, Diego remained unruffled. He swept a gaze over her before leaning back against the chair, seemingly covering something up. "I don't know what you're talking about."

Only when Anthony heard Thalia's reassurance did he realize what exactly Diego feared. Therefore, he went straight to the point. "I reckon you've heard of Magus, yes?"

At the mention of that name, Diego's brows furrowed imperceptibly. "Who?"

"Magus, one of those involved in the theft in Yartran. Back then, he was even abandoned at the crime scene," Anthony enunciated.

Following that explanation, Diego's eyes narrowed a fraction. He contemplated for some time before drawling, "Oh, he's the person you're talking about. He's known as Magus?"

"You don't know him?"

Diego merely shrugged, looking as insouciant as ever.

It was clear as day that he was still wary about the matter.

Anthony pondered for a moment. "I'm here to investigate him, so you only need to answer my questions properly. I promise you that you won't be implicated in any way!"

However, Diego snickered. "Haha... Why should I answer just because you asked?"

Thalia fixed her eyes on him, all too familiar with scoundrels like him. Her eyes darkened, but her lips curved into a smirk. "You should be aware that your life is in our hands since we managed to find you

and even gain entry here. With just a word from me, an accident is nothing..." She did not finish her utterance, but her meaning was already unmistakable.

At that threat, Diego's expression stiffened slightly. Sure enough, he then practiced much more restraint.

"What will I get in return if I answer your questions?"

"You're still hoping to get something in return?" Thalia snarled.

"What do you want in return?" Anthony interjected before the two of them went into a heated argument.

Diego shifted his gaze to Anthony. From the seating arrangements and the latter's demeanor and tone, he could tell that Anthony had the authority to call the shots.

"I want to get out!" he declared.

"That's impossible!" Anthony rebuffed firmly.

At once, Diego frowned. "If so, what can you give me?"

Anthony stared at him, looking both calm and composed. "Something realistic. You can ask for anything within the limits, but forget about delusional fantasies!"

In the same manner, Diego locked his eyes on Anthony. A while later, he uttered, "I want a bottle of wine."

Anthony deliberated about it briefly before nodding. "Okay. But are you sure?"

"I'm here to stay, so what else could I ask for other than food and drink?" Diego lamented.

"If you want to convey a message to your family or something, that's fine too," Anthony suggested.

No sooner had that subject come up than Diego's expression gradually darkened. "I'm an orphan and have no family!"

Hearing that, Anthony quirked a brow. "Sorry, I didn't know that."

"Hadn't you investigated me before coming over?" Diego retorted.

"Yes, but those things could have been fabricated," Anthony replied.

As Diego scrutinized the boy across from him, fear slowly crept into his eyes. Initially, he merely thought



that Anthony held a higher “position.” After the simple chat, however, he realized he was far off the mark. In truth, Anthony's words and the logic behind them were downright terrifying.

Eventually, his guard went up another notch.

“Well? What do you want to know?”

“We want to know about Magus,” Anthony answered frankly.

“Isn't he... the one who's skilled in disguise?” Diego queried.

“Yeah.”

“He's been released, no? Can't you seek him out and ask him whatever you want to know?” Diego argued.

#### Chapter 829 We Are Somewhat Related

As Anthony and Thalia left the prison building, they walked side by side.

“Well? What do you think?” Thalia asked.

“I don't think he was lying,” Anthony surmised.

In response, Thalia dipped her head. “Same here.”

“But while he didn't lie, he was definitely hiding something from us!” Anthony added.

Again, Thalia bobbed her head. “I agree. It was beyond obvious.”

“So, the issue lies on...”

“That boss of his,” Thalia concluded, completing the second half of Anthony's utterance.

Anthony gave a nod of his head. “Yes. In other words, he's the key in this matter!”

Thalia turned her gaze to him. “Don't tell me you're planning to ferret the man out?”

“No, that isn't necessary. Truthfully, I already have my suspicions. But I need verification,” Anthony replied.

“How are you going to verify it?”

Anthony considered it briefly. “Let's wait for a while longer. Perhaps there'll be news very soon.”

"You mean the person who trades in information?" Thalia queried.

Anthony inclined his head a fraction in affirmation.

"You're the only one who trusts him!" Thalia huffed.

"But wasn't he the one who found Magus?" Anthony countered.

Thalia arched a brow, but she did not deny it.

By then, they had exited the prison gates. The instant Miguel spotted them, he scrambled out of the car and rushed up to them.

"How did it go, Master?" Miguel asked.

"We've gotten something at least," Anthony answered.

"So, what's the verdict?"

"That'll take a bit longer," Anthony responded.

Upon hearing that, Miguel nodded. "All right, then. Where are we going now?"

Lifting his wrist, Anthony glanced at the time before murmuring, "It's about time."

Just as Miguel was about to ask for clarification, Anthony continued, "Let's go. We'll head back first."

Thus, Miguel dipped his head in acquiescence.

Subsequently, they got into the car and geared up to head home.

Mere seconds after they had started the engine, however, Anthony's phone rang.

The moment that happened, everyone in the car cut their gazes over. It was as though they were all aware of the caller's identity.

Taking out his phone, Anthony glanced at the incoming phone number. A barely-perceptible smile tugged at his lips. He swiped his finger over the answer button and picked up the call.

"Hello."

"I've already collected all information on Magus. When can you come over?" the person on the other end of the phone asked, cutting straight to the chase.

"Give me your location."

"Let's meet at the usual place."

"Sure!" After saying that, Anthony promptly hung up.

Right then, everyone in the car was staring at him.

"Why are you all looking at me?" A frown marred Anthony's countenance.

"Are you psychic, Master?" Miguel exclaimed.

Why does it feel as though he knows everything?

"From the moment I laid eyes on him at the marketplace and mentioned Magus' name, I was aware that he undoubtedly knows everything," Anthony divulged nonchalantly.

"If so, why did he ask you for a day or two?" Miguel screeched.

Thalia pinned her eyes on him, regarding him as though he was a fool. "How could he show that he'd been working hard otherwise? And would he have the nerve to take the money?"

At that, Miguel was momentarily stunned. He then lamented, "How foolish of me!" Having said that, he withdrew his gaze and started driving.

Thalia snorted a bark of laughter. "Those around Dave are just slow-witted!"

Following that insult, Miguel immediately objected, "You can disparage me, but not Dave!"

"I simply want to do that. What can you do about it?" Thalia retorted.

Miguel's mind whirled at warp speed. I'm not her match physically speaking, much less when it comes to oral skills. He brooded upon the matter, his gaze trained on the rearview mirror. When he glimpsed the boy sitting in the backseat, his gaze flickered. "I can't do anything about it. But then, I'm Master's apprentice while you're his colleague. How's that?"

Words eluded Thalia.

She snapped her head over and glowered at him. "Well, well, well... you even know how to divert my wrath now."

Miguel flashed her a faint smile. "Not really. We're currently somewhat related, aren't we?"

Fixing her eyes on him with a half-smile, Thalia clenched her fists so hard that cracking sounds split the air. "Shall I now analyze the relationship between us for you?"

At the sight of her in a fit, Miguel instantly stammered, "I-I'm driving, and there are three pillars of the country sitting in the back. They're all Darknetz's pillars!"

After giving it some thought, Thalia nodded. "All right, then. I'll only teach you a lesson later!"

At once, Miguel was struck dumb.

Denise, who was sitting in the back, could not help bursting into giggles as she watched them tease each other.

How I wish the relationship between Darknetz and DX is like that between the two of them! Then, we wouldn't be caught between a rock and a difficult place!

In no time, they arrived at the place they previously went, as per the man's instructions.

By the time they climbed out of the car, the man was already waiting there.

At the sight of Anthony, he swiftly hurried forward. "You're here, Sir?"

Sir?

That address had Thalia inexorably dissolve into laughter behind him.

Indeed, Anthony deserves the title after forking out so much money!

Anthony eyed him without rejecting that address. "Where is it?"

Chapter 830 Being Too Cynical

With his gaze locked on the man, Anthony stated, "You're not merely acquainted with Magus, huh?"

At that, the man was momentarily taken aback. "What do you mean?"

Following a brief contemplation, Anthony looked at him. "Well, how about you give me your time for the next few days? I can pay you by the hour."

Unexpectedly, the man was a touch ambivalent about accepting the offer. "What do you want me to do?"

"Nothing much, merely accompanying me around and answering my questions," Anthony replied.

A flash of conflict and hesitance showed on the man's gaunt face.

Although Thalia had no idea what Anthony had in mind, she knew that he must have a reason for doing so.

She promptly whipped out a stack of bills from her bag and fanned it blatantly.

At the sight of the money, the man's hesitation instantly vanished into thin air. He smiled obsequiously as he looked at Anthony. "You're sure I only have to do as you said, merely walking around and answering some questions?"

"Of course."

"All right, then. It's a deal!" As the man spoke, he hastened over to Thalia without a second's delay. Just when he was about to snatch the money away, Thalia took out half and gave it to him.

"Uh, what's the meaning of this?" the man questioned.

"Payment will be by the day. When you've held up the end of your bargain, I'll give you the remaining half."

When the man heard that, he threw her a chagrined look. "You're not even as decisive as a kid. He's far more generous than you are!"

Despite his words, Thalia remained unfazed. "That's only natural. He's merely giving the orders, but I'm in charge of the finances. I definitely have to be more cautious."

The man inhaled deeply. For all of his resentment, he still stuffed the money into his pocket. Then, he turned to look at Anthony. "So, where do you want me to accompany you?"

"The hospital."

The man was not at all surprised. He merely swept a gaze over Anthony before giving a dip of his head. "Okay, sure!" While saying that, he eyed them. "Can your car fit so many people?"

Anthony shot him a sidelong look. "Take a taxi. We'll follow at the back."

"A taxi?"

"You'll be reimbursed for it." Right after Anthony had finished saying that, he stood up and climbed into the car.

Miguel and Thalia also cast the man a look before they followed suit.

Left with no other choice, the man could only hail a taxi in the end.

As Miguel drove, he kept his eyes peeled on the taxi in the front. He could not help wondering, "He wouldn't take off, would he?"

Right then, Anthony was scanning through the information with Benjamin and Denise. Without looking up, he answered, "He loves money, so he'd never take off when there's money to be made."

"It's my first time seeing such a greedy person!" Miguel could not help commenting.

"He's only greedy because he has the capability to do so," Anthony remarked lowly.

"What does that mean?" Upon hearing that, Miguel stole a peek at the back.

"It means that there are many more who seek him out besides us," Thalia explained.

Still, a glimmer of puzzlement flashed across Miguel's handsome face. "Is he really that incredible that every person who seeks him out is willing to pay an exorbitant sum to buy his information?"

Before Anthony could respond to that, Thalia, who was sitting beside Miguel, boasted, "Everyone I recommend is formidable! Also, don't look down on Magus because he's now despondent and disheveled. He's a genius in the art of disguise. After all, there are many things one could do with such a skill. In fact, he can even disguise himself as you and do something or other. At that time, you wouldn't know what hit you!"

At that, Miguel's curiosity was piqued. "That amazing? Isn't the art of disguise used in TV series to dupe viewers?"

"Only ignorant people think so!" Thalia scoffed, snorting.

Miguel was not bothered by her teasing him. He continued asking, "Say, since he's so impressive, does none of those who sought him out think to kill him when he refused to leave with them?"

"The art of disguise is different from all others. This skill is beyond difficult. Magus is already a pro in this. If there were someone else who could take his place, he would've likely died long ago. It's precisely because he's irreplaceable that he escaped death," Thalia elaborated.

"But for many, they would certainly kill him outright if they couldn't use him. They wouldn't have such sympathy and compassion!" Miguel argued.

"That's true. Therefore, it's definitely not because of others' sympathy that he could remain alive to this day," Anthony interjected out of the blue from behind.

After listening to that, Thalia turned and pinned her eyes on him. "Well? Why did you have the man follow you?"

Anthony chuckled. "Why do you think?"

"Would I still ask this if I can see through you?" Thalia huffed.

"I thought you surmised it since you played along with me."

Thalia flashed Anthony an icy smile. "I have reason to suspect that you're making fun of me, Anthony Watson."

"Be more confident and repeat that as an affirmative statement."