

Protection

by kizzy7

Hermione, Severus, and their bodyguards. Written for the GS100 'bodyguard' challenge.

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Chapter 1 of 1

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"And who, Miss Granger, is *that*?"

Severus scowled, glaring at the tanned, muscled form of the man standing silently next to Hermione.

She grinned and looped an arm around the ape. "This is Claudio. My bodyguard."

"Claudio?" he responded acidly.

"From Portugal," she answered cheerily, tightening her grip.

"Pick him up at the latest Portuguese brothel?" Severus snapped, smug with his wit.

She shook her head. "The Department of Magical Defense is offering bodyguards to War survivors. Protection from rogue Death Eaters."

"Feel you need protection from me?" Snape leered at her.

"Perhaps you should get one." Hermione smiled sweetly.

"And who, Severus Snape, is *that*?"

Hermione grabbed onto Claudio's arm and pulled him close to her.

Snape smiled. "This is my bodyguard, Miss Granger. Esmerelda."

In Hermione's opinion, Esmerelda, with her long, black hair, her red lips, and her dark eyes, looked like a high-class prostitute.

Hermione glared at her former professor before firmly placing her arm around Claudio's muscled waist.

"Claudio and I were just about to go out for drinks."

Snape smirked. "Oh, and is that part of his job description? I do hope he is well paid for his extra... exertions."

She glowered. "He is, actually."

"Where is your muscled dunderhead of a bodyguard, Hermione?"

"Where is your exotic, Brazilian whore, Severus?"

They stared at each other, unblinking, nervous.

Hermione breathed out unsteadily. "I found Claudio rather annoying, actually."

Snape nodded. "Esmerelda was tediously boring."

She placed a hand on his arm, fingering the buttons. "You know, Severus. Without a bodyguard, I'm quite scared at night. Alone, without any... protection."

He cleared his throat. "Perhaps I could be of assistance, Hermione."

She smiled at him and curled her fingers in his.

He leaned towards her, whispering in her ear. "After all, *lam* a Death Eater."

A/N Thanks to the TPP admins for all of their hard work!