

Dio - Privilege and Virtue

Diocletian Tiberius Quintus Marianus is a mid-20s, cis-male, natural-born human. He is heir to the largest manufacturer of commercial space-faring ships in the galaxy, the Marianus interstellar shipping and freight empire.

After being introduced to the wonders of spaceflight while traveling with his grandfather Quintus, he quickly developed a keen interest in life at the helm of a ship of his own.

Despite his birth being a strictly-business arrangement between his father and mother's families, Dio cherishes the relationship he has with both of his parents. It was the love and support he received from his family which allowed him to feel comfortable pursuing his own goals beyond the family business.

Personality

Diocletian is a fiery spirit, full of passion, with little regard for caution or a sense of self preservation. From a young age he would sneak aboard ships in the Marianus manufactory and attempt to figure out exactly how to make them move, sometimes with disastrous results.

A stipulation from the contract which begat him, Dio is forbidden from augmenting his body in any way, be it with cybernetic enhancement or psionic tampering. As a natural-born human living in a world of the enhanced, Dio feels the need to push his body to the absolute limits to prove that he doesn't need augmentation to excel.

As an adult, he is well aware of the power and status that his family name carries, and isn't above wielding it to his advantage when necessary. However, he also has a philanthropic streak, owing to a rather strong sense of empathy and compassion for those who haven't enjoyed the freedoms and privilege that he grew up with.

Dio is a living embodiment of the phrase "It's better to ask for forgiveness than to ask for permission", preferring to act on his instincts and deal with the consequences when they arise. He was the kind of child who failed the marshmallow test with spectacular consistency. Asking Dio to wait is like asking a bird not to fly.

He understands the word "poor", but not quite the weight of it or just how deep poverty can go. To him, being poor means that you can't afford to splurge on updating the internal systems of the classic in-atmosphere project plane that you and your mechanic friend are restoring together, not that you worry about where your next meal might come from, or how you're going to afford rent this month.

The Pilot

After a multi-million dollar incident resulting in the scuttling of the company's latest flagship with young Dio at the helm, Tiberius Quintus Caeso Marianus, Dio's father, realized that it was unlikely he could keep the rambunctious child away from the cockpit. Not wanting to crush a genuine interest, he enrolled Dio in a flight school, and commissioned a VR flight-simulator to be built into an empty wing of their estate so that the young boy could practice safely at any time.

On Dio's sixteenth birthday, his mother founded the Marianus Racing wing, a subsidiary of the Marianus empire dedicated solely to the manufacture of high performance racing craft specifically to support her son's passion.

Dio was a natural on the sticks, and quickly gained celebrity status of his own as a wildly successful circuit racer. He claimed the championship title in his second season and has defended it without issue for seven straight years.

First-Contact Explorer

After claiming his 8th circuit championship title Dio felt himself growing restless. He was happy for his success, but felt more and more that he would eventually be relegated to being just another Marianus. He was loath to return to his role as heir to the family business, dreading the thought of a life of meetings, trade deals, and negotiation. Instead, Dio was constantly on the lookout for any means by which he could raise the value and worth of his own name, rather than just riding on the clout that his family had earned for him.

When a new deep-space gateway was developed it opened up the galaxy to exploration far beyond anything available before. Planetary governments and private enterprises alike saw the new frontier as a classic-gold rush, and quickly sent ships out to stake first claim on anything of value that they might find in the great beyond.

However, just beyond the safety of their inner systems were great dangers, and few of those ships ever returned. A call went out for armed crews willing to face the dangers of deep space, explorers of the new frontier. Dio felt a call to adventure unlike anything he had ever experienced since the first time he sat in the captain's chair.

Dio hired a crew of highly competent individuals to serve as his expedition team, but due to his distaste of being in charge he abdicated the role of leader to another. He was most at home in the cockpit, navigating asteroid fields, solar storms, or worse. After a few months of combat training provided by his family's military contacts, Dio felt that he and his crew were ready. He enlisted as a First-Contact Explorer and privateer, setting forth immediately to stake his claim as one of the first to traverse the new frontier.