

Drag everyone down with you

Misery loves company because nobody likes to take the fall alone. *Llevarse a todos entre las patas* = To drag everyone down with you (literally, “to carry everyone between the legs”). *Si ustedes me delatan con la policía, me voy a llevar a todos ustedes entre las patas* = If any of you rat on me to the police, I’m going to take all of you down with me.

Drag someone into the mess

At a family gathering you’re minding your own business when out of nowhere you hear your name mentioned in someone else’s conversation from across the room. “*No me saques a mí,*” you warn (“Don’t drag me into the mess,” “Don’t involve me,” or “Don’t get me into this”) from the verb *sacar*. You can also say, “*No me metas*” (“Don’t get me involved” from the verb *meter*), but this usually implies that there is a problem or altercation and you don’t want to be a part of it. Don’t forget that the verb *sacar* is also employed in order to get something out of someone or to extract information from someone (like gossip). See “Fish for information” in this chapter.

Draw attention

Apantallar = To draw attention, to “wow,” or make an impression on. It helps if you know that a *pantalla* is a screen (like a movie screen) because the movies are all about captivating an audience and sometimes making people believe something is more than it really is. Take, for example, those restaurant menus that contain mouth-watering pictures of the food entrees that look so much more delectable in the pictures than in reality. If you ordered what looked like gigantic prawns on the menu only to get a plate of guppy-sized shrimp, then you could complain, “*Pedí el plato de camarón porque cuando vi la foto en el menú me apantalló*” (“I asked for the shrimp plate because when I saw the picture of it on the menu, it really looked appealing”).