



xxxii. When the Boss Calls

Auralie had been hoping for a calm morning. She could eat some toast and watch cartoons before going to file her paperwork and check out the results of the pirate investigation. Maybe she would meet up with Natasha for training. But when the boss calls, you can't just ignore it.

That was how she ended up on the small screen in Fury's car, and how she witnessed the car chase of the century. It had started normal enough. Fury was explaining the results of his discussion with Pierce and the world security council and some of his suspicions about the pirate attack. He was explaining how he wanted her to keep an eye on the different pieces of the investigation and report back to him. Then he was talking about how they needed extra security because of the World Security Council visit coming up.

All of this was normal until a police car pulled up beside Fury. The officer looked at him suspiciously and Fury glared at him, "you wanna see my lease?"

Fury drove away and went back to his distributing orders. Then, out of nowhere, another police car rammed into The Fury-Mobile at full speed.

Auralie let out a gasp and said, "Sir, what the bloody hell just happened?"

A battered Fury rolled his eyes, "I'm under attack." Then to the car, he yelled, "get me on the grid. And activate manual steering."

Auralie cried, "Sir, do you need me to hang up or....."

"No Agent Shadow," Fury answered, "I'd rather have you on the line as a witness."

That was when a bunch of cop cars surrounded Fury. Fury muttered "motherfucker" quietly enough that only Auralie could hear.

"Surrender," One of the officers yelled. Fury gave no response. They launched a round of heavy fire into the car. Fortunately, the bulletproof make of it protected its inhabitant from any more harm. While they fired on him, Fury jabbed a painkiller into his arm, hoping to help deal with the wounds. Auralie watched in shock, already grabbing her phone and sending out alerts to specific Shield personnel who should be in the area and able to help.

But she knew none of them would make it in time. The officers already had out the battering ram.

"Window integrity at 50%" the car informed, "permission to initiate countermeasures?"

"Denied," Fury said shortly. They rammed the battering ram into the window for the first time.

"Window integrity, 35%. Countermeasures advised," the car chimed.

"Director," Auralie called, fearful for the life of her boss.

"Not yet," he cried, and they rammed into the window a second time.

"Boss," Auralie screamed.

"Window integrity, 1%," the car beeped frantically.

"NOW," Fury bellowed. A gun popped up and he shot out the window, firing at the attackers. They fell back, not wanting to face an angry Fury with a weapon. Auralie breathed a sigh of relief that her boss wasn't dead.

Fury backed up the car and pulled away, going full speed and yelling, "get me out of town."

"GPS has been damaged," the car replied.

"Shit," he said, "well then, get me Agent Hill."

"Long-range communications are down," was the answer.

"Well, what is operational," Fury yelled, getting frustrated.

The Fury Car said, "air conditioning is fully operational."

"Not helping," Fury cried, then said to Auralie, "Agent Shadow, I need you to call Agent Hill."

"Yes Sir," Auralie answered, already dialing up Maria's number. That was when the car in front of Fury's car was suddenly blown off the highway. Auralie gasped, and when the smoke cleared, she saw a man standing where none had stood before.

He was a relatively tall man with long brown hair. A mask covered all of his face except for his forehead. He was dressed in combat gear, armed and strong, with a metal arm with a red star painted on the shoulder. Auralie didn't know who he was, but he clearly wasn't there for tea and a chat with Fury.

She was about to ask what was going on when the short-range communications cut out. Letting out a cry of frustration, she hit the call button on her cell phone. Maria answered on the first ring.

"Sis, what's wrong?" Maria cried.

Auralie answered, "there's been an assassination attempt on Fury. You need to get back right away."

"Got it, I'll be there shortly," Maria said, ever the practical assistant director. But Auralie could hear the tremble in her sister's voice. Maria really did care about Shield, and without Fury, Shield could collapse. Everything could spiral out of control, and they really didn't want that.

"Oh, and Maria," Auralie said to her sister, "there was this man.....he came out of nowhere, and....."

"Tell it to me later," Maria interrupted, "I'm trying to book a flight. Go find Steve or Nat and have them help you."

"On it," Auralie said. She hung up and turned to get to work. First, she notified the tech department and told them to try and get surveillance video on Fury's car. Then she ran through the corridors, looking for Steve or Natasha.

That was when she realized, Natasha wouldn't be back in DC until tomorrow, and Steve was taking an off day. Swearing furiously in Russian, Auralie ran to the garage and jumped in a Shield van, planning to take it to Steve's. It was lucky she had her drivers license now. If this had happened only a few years prior, she would have been in trouble.

Still, it took her a while to get to the apartment complex because of all the traffic. Traffic was a bitch. As soon as she did arrive, she wasted no time at all, hopping out of the car and running up the stairs at top speed.

She found Agent 13, AKA Sharon Carter waiting by the door. Sharon was assigned to be keeping an eye on Captain America because he was one of the most prominent heroes in the world, he was always getting into fighting situations, and he lived in an apartment with simple locks. Clearly, someone needed to keep him from getting killed.

Auralie and Sharon burst into the apartment. Auralie called, "Steve?"

Steve came running, "Ali, and.....Kate?"

Sharon lifted her gun up, "I'm agent 13, I was assigned here to protect you."

"Assigned," Steve cried, "by who?"

"They came across a body on the floor. Sharon nodded to it and said, "by him." Auralie's hands began to glow and she held them over the man's face. It was just as she feared. Nick Fury was lying dead or dying on Steve's floor.

A/N: I wasn't sure whether or not to include this, but I love the car chase scene because car chases are awesome, so yeah, I hope it makes at least a little sense. Also, I found a cool image that looks sort of like Auralie using her powers and included it below.



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