

Small World

Chapter 14: A Mysterious Ally

As soon as David and Jack rushed out of one of the side exits of the building, they suddenly heard a female voice call out, "There they are! Hurry up and get that camera rolling!"

"Oh, great...! Crazy news reporter at six O'clock!" Jack muttered sarcastically as he quickened his pace.

"It's six O'clock already?" David asked, baffled.

"Just shut up and run!!" Jack barked.

Seeing two familiar suit-clad men rapidly approaching from another exit to the building some distance ahead, David skidded to an abrupt stop, and yelped in alarm, "We're surrounded!"

At that moment, the sound of skidding tires was heard, followed by familiar soft yet authoritative female voice shouting out, "Get in!"

The two furry fugitives instantly turned towards the voice, to see a small, bulbous, pink-coloured vehicle with the passenger-side door open. In the driver's seat was an all-too familiar looking girl with long brown hair and a white T-shirt, only now with a pair of white jeans in place of the pink miniskirt. Recognizing the girl, Jack exclaimed, "You! From the convention!"

"How do we know we can trust you?" David then asked warily.

"You don't. But would you rather take your chances with them?" the girl simply responded bluntly, indicating the pair's pursuers.

After letting out an irate grumble, Jack quickly hopped into the passenger's seat of the vehicle, followed immediately after by David.

As the small pink car began speeding off into the distance, the lighter-haired of the two agents took aim with his handgun at it, and yelled, "Stop!! C.I.A.!!" Even after firing several shots towards it, the agent could only watch helplessly as the vehicle safely turned a corner around another building and disappeared from sight.

At that moment, the darker-haired agent turned to stalk towards the other pursuers, Veronica Wells and her cameraman. Stopping to point the muzzle of his gun just centimeters away from the reporter's face, the agent growled coldly, "The only reason I don't pull this trigger right now is that we have orders to keep messy loose ends on this operation to a minimum. This is your last warning. Stay out of this!"

Placing a hand on the dark-haired man's shoulder, the other agent urged calmly "Come on, Heralds. Let's not waste any more time with her. We have work to do."

Re-holstering his weapon, Heralds begrudgingly turned around and stormed off after his partner away from the scene.

As soon as the two government agents were out of earshot, Veronica whispered to herself under her breath with a sly smirk, "And so, our little game begins..."

Meanwhile, elsewhere in the city...

As the small pink car quickly navigated through the bustling city streets of Los Vegas, the girl in the driver's seat asked calmly, "So, I take it you two aren't exactly from around here, are you?"

David, who was now sitting in the back, turned to the front passenger seat from where Jack was glancing back at him, and mouthed silently, 'Should we tell her?' After receiving an affirming nod from the ex-commando, David answered, "No, we're not."

"At least, he's not," Jack added.

After a brief pause, David explained, "He's a spy from Canada, and I'm from a planet called Ferrina, which is in a system approximately forty-eight of your light-years away from here. We're Ferrens. My name's David, by the way. Doctor David Gray."

"Special Agent Jack Spader, CSIS," Jack then introduced.

"Jade Kathrine," the girl responded softly. "I thought you two looked a little too realistic for just a couple of really short fursuiters. I just have one question, though... If you're both aliens, how come one of you is from Canada?"

"It's... kind of a long story, and I'd really rather not get into it right now..." Jack muttered awkwardly with a sheepish grin, rubbing the back of his head in embarrassment.

"And what about you?" David then asked. "Are you even... old enough to drive in this region?"

"Actually, though I may not look it, I'm really twenty-one," Jade replied casually.

"Twenty-one?!" David gasped, "But you barely look fourteen by human standards!"

"I know, weird isn't it?" Jade giggled. "A lot of people make that same mistake about me. I guess I just never fully grew up." After pausing for a moment, she asked, "So, where are you guys headed?"

"Huston," David responded abruptly.

"Huston?" Jack inquired, puzzled, "Why Huston?"

"Well, while we were decrypting those top-secret files on that data storage device, I just happened to notice something interesting..." David began, "I'll explain further while we're on route. It's just a hunch, but I think I might have an idea what that government agency is planning... And I also have a feeling they're not working alone..."

Meanwhile, back inside the Area Unknown military base...

Agent Jefferson was sitting at a large desk in a sparsely furnished room, disinterestedly sifting through a small pile of papers, when a small, black, rectangular device resting next to him on the desk began to chime. Picking up the device and putting it to his ear, Jefferson spoke into it, "What is it, Lieutenant?"

"Sir," the voice of Lieutenant Heralds responded through the device's speaker, "the targets have escaped once again. And now they appear to have a new accomplice. A young girl who looks to be in her late teens driving a pink Volkswagen Beetle."

Jefferson let out a disappointed sigh. "I was hoping to avoid any more collateral damage on this operation. I suppose that was just too much to expect." After a moment, he inquired, "Where are they headed now?"

"According to the data we received from the serial code scanners, their last known heading should lead them straight to Huston, Texas," Heralds replied.

A long moment of tense silence ensued, before finally, Jefferson instructed, "...I see. Continue your pursuit of the targets, Lieutenant. Use any means necessary to apprehend them before they reach their destination, so long as it doesn't raise too much public suspicion. Do not fail me again, Lieutenant." With that, the high-ranked, passionless agent terminated the transmission.

Dialing a new code into the device, Jefferson brought it up to his ear again. After a few moments of waiting, the agent heard a deep, hissing, almost demonic sounding voice demand, "Report."

"My Lord, we have a slight complication," Jefferson began, "It appears as though the two nuisances may be on to our plans. They are headed towards the city of Huston as we speak."

"We must not allow them to interfere with our objectives," the menacing voice growled. "Those two vermin must be exterminated, even if you have to use the most powerful weapons in your arsenal to ensure it."

"Understood, My Lord," Jefferson agreed calmly.

“Remember, human,” the voice warned threateningly, “If you fail, it will be you and your people who will pay the price.”