

Title: After the Shot
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Classification: Frohike's POV, vignette
Episodes: Fight the Future, very brief reference to early season two
Archive: No archive without permission.
Disclaimer: On paper, these characters aren't mine. In my head, they are.

Notes: It's been a while since I've played around in someone else's head. This time, I thought I'd try to dig around in Frohike's mind for a bit and see where it would take me. This little vignette is the result.~)

Summary: He's the strongest person I know.

After the Shot
by Susan
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We're arguing about what to put on the next cover on the Lone Gunmen when we get the call from Skinner.

Mulder's been shot, and Scully's missing.

We quickly figure out that he called 911 about Scully and just as quickly figure out that his call was somehow intercepted.

By who, we don't know.

In less than ten minutes, Byers and Langly are on their way to Mulder's apartment building, and I'm on my way to the hospital.

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When I get to the hospital, I'm not surprised to see some government stiff hanging around Mulder's room. He's not even trying to act inconspicuous, which pisses me off even more.

Consequently, I blow right by him and head into Mulder's room.

Seeing him lying there unconscious, his head heavily bandaged, his body so still, knocks the breath right out of me, and I have to grab onto the side of the bed to catch myself.

Jesus.

A gunshot wound to the head...a few centimeters to the left and he probably would've...

No, I'm not going to let myself think like that. I can't, and I won't.

Steadying myself, I walk over to the other side of his bed and look at his chart. It says the bullet most likely grazed across his brow first, then the temporal area and didn't have to be surgically removed.

Thank God for small miracles.

And for Mulder's tough head.

I'm not surprised though. He's the strongest person I know.

Although I've never been one for the whole prayer thing, I give his arm a quick squeeze and send a few words upstairs to the big guy.

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When Byers and Langly finally arrive, they immediately show me the honeybee they found in the hallway outside Mulder's apartment, which most likely caused Scully's adverse reaction and in turn caused him to call 911.

Is it possible that it was all part of some elaborate plan?

Plant a bee on Scully's clothes, knowing that she would have a debilitating reaction to it if she was stung, then intercept the ambulance when it came for her and take Mulder out at the same time.

Sure, it sounds crazy, but right now I can't seem to think of any other explanation and neither can the guys.

We all lean over Mulder then, watching for any kind of movement as Langly and I argue over his chart, and then it happens.

His eyes flutter open, and he looks up at us.

He's awake.

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"Oh God. Cowardly Lion, Scarecrow, Toto."

Out of all the things Mulder could've said, those are the first words out of his mouth as he tries to focus on each of our faces.

Toto, my ass.

My irritation at the reference is quickly pushed out

of the way though as relief floods over me.

He's awake and just as stubborn and impatient as ever.

"Where's Scully?" he asks, suddenly sitting up in bed and holding his head.

We explain to him what little we know, and just as I knew he would, he immediately tries to get out of the bed and go after her.

That is, until the boss man bursts into the room.

Then again, that doesn't really slow him down either. We all know he'd do anything for Scully, including risking his own life, and Skinner offering to find her isn't going to stop him.

And neither is anyone else.

The next thing I know, he's taking the bandage off his head and Byers is getting undressed.

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Walking down the hallway, Mulder out in front of Langly and me, I can't help but wonder if we're doing the right thing.

Fifteen minutes ago, he was lying in a hospital bed unconscious with a gunshot wound to the head.

Now he's a man on a mission, hustling down this hallway, his steps shaky, but his voice determined as he talks on the phone.

How the hell is he going to find Scully?

I know he'll do whatever he has to, regardless of the consequences, but what will he do if he can't save her?

When she disappeared three years ago, it nearly killed him, but now their partnership is even stronger, and if he can't find her...

No, I'm not going to think like that.

Like I said, Mulder's the strongest person I know, and if anyone can find her, it's him.

Watching him hurry through the door and out into the unknown, I figure it won't hurt to send another quick message to the big guy upstairs, and so I do, asking to keep both my friends safe.

I just hope he hears me this time too.

~end~

Thanks for reading.

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