

SLOW MARCH TO DEATH

Posted originally on the [Archive of Our Own](http://archiveofourown.org/works/21442933) at <http://archiveofourown.org/works/21442933>.

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Rating: | Explicit |
| Archive Warnings: | Graphic Depictions Of Violence , Major Character Death , Rape/Non-Con , Underage |
| Categories: | F/F , F/M , M/M |
| Fandoms: | The Night Shift (TV 2014) , Blindspot (TV) , The Blacklist (US TV) |
| Relationships: | TC Callahan/Jordan Alexander , Drew Alister/Rick Lincoln , Edgar Reade & Tasha Zapata , Jocelyn Diaz/Kenny Fournette |
| Characters: | TC Callahan , Jordan Alexander , Drew Alister , Scott Clemmens , Topher Zia , Rick Lincoln , Krista Bell-Hart , Kenny Fournette , Joey Chavez , Jocelyn Diaz , Paul Cummings , Edgar Reade , Natasha "Tasha" Zapata , Roman Briggs , Brianna (Blindspot TV) , Kurt Weller , Jane Weller , Sarah Weller |
| Additional Tags: | War , Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder - PTSD , Iraq , Afgahnistan , war wound , Loss of Limbs , AU , CROSSOVER-NIGHT SHIFT , CROSSOVER-BLINDSPOT , Sarah Weller has a new man , CROSSOVER-THE BLACKLIST |
| Language: | English |
| Stats: | Published: 2019-11-17 Updated: 2019-11-21 Words: 1,946 Chapters: 4/? |

SLOW MARCH TO DEATH

by [lila_luscious1](#)

Summary

The Night Shift (San Antonio TX) cross-over with Blindspot and The Blacklist

NIGHT SHIFT 1

Chapter Summary

Army Ranger Captain TC Callahan find themselves in deep doo-doo when a mission in the Philippines goes sideways.

Chapter Notes

RANGER TEAM A-GOLD

CAPTAIN THOMAS C (TC) CALLAHAN
1ST LIEUTENANT CHRISTOPHER (TOPHER) ZIA
MASTER SERGEANT PIETRO (MAC) MACDONALD
SERGEANT VICTOR (VB) BRAVA
SERGEANT KAL RAVINOE
CORPORAL MARTIN (CANTON) DORN
CORPORAL LUIS (TORO) ZAPATA
CORPORAL MAXIMUM (HITMAN) LEWIS

Ranger Captain TC Callhan and his eight man Ranger Team speed along a winding dirt road, location:

a remote province deep in the Southern Philippines. TC gets on the radio to TAC (Tactical Operations

Command): SIX! This is One-SIX! PRIMARY RALLY POINT IS BLOWN! I SAY AGAIN PRIMARY

RALLY POINT IS-BLOWN! (Primary rally Point: previously decided upon extraction location; BLOWN= compromised.)

SIX: Ahhh-COPY, One-Six...re-direct to Secondary Rally Point-how copy?! (how copy=verify understanding.)

TC: Good copy, Six! Re-directing to Secondary Romeo Papa! One-Six Out!"

Having heard the conversation over his own coms (communication ear-piece), Ravinoe, with Hitman navigating, changes course to the secondary Romeo Papa...Topher calls to TC: "VB's asking for you, TC!"

TC knee-walks forward, grasping the injured man's bloody hand. "Stay frosty, VB...we're on a chopper riki-tik."
(meaning very soon.)

Gasping, Victor manages "I'm OK, Sir...I can fight..." Then he coughs up a large gout of blood.

TC glances at Topher-one short emphatic shake of his head is all the Captain needs to know. "Yeah, yeah", he lies.
"I can't bust bullets without my best shooter, can I?"

Suddenly, two pick-up trucks appear behind them; closing the distance fast. Mac sees them and determines that they are
Filipino guerillas. Captain! Bogies on our six!"

Just then, the occupants of the truck closest to them begin firing. TC and Toro respond immediately, though it's very, very
difficult to "sight" properly, with the jouncing and swerving of both vehicles. TC, Mac, Canton are forced to hold on as best they
can while the high-speed chase continues.

Topher, trying desperately to keep his patient stabilized, shouts to one of the other team members: "CANTON! HELP ME HOLD
ME DOWN!" Canton stops firing at the pursing vehicle and does as ordered.

(DURING ALL OF THIS, A FAST BOAT MANNED BY NAVY SEALS IS SPEEDING
TOWARD THE NEW DESIGNATION, CAPTAIN
LUSCIOUS BROCK, COMMANDS THE CRAFT OF SIX SPECAL FORCES
OPERATORS...HE CONTACTS TC TO REPORT
HIS STATUS: "BRAVO LEADER, BRAVO LEADER...FAST BOAT COMING IN HOT,
FOUR MIKES OUT...GOOD COPY?"

"AFFIRMATIVE ECHO LEADER!-MULTIPLE BOGIES ON OUR SIX-HEAVY
ORDINANCE, INCLUDING CALIBER 50 AND RPGS!
ALSO MULTIPLE LIGHT WOUNDED AND ONE MEDEVAC"...he's interrupted by
Rapinoe swerving to avoid a ROCKET-PROPELLED
GRENADE fired by the pursing enemy. Suddenly, they burst at high speed into a small
clearing, on the edge of a fast-moving river...Captain
Brock, from the waiting fast boat: "BRAVO LEADER-TAKE IT STRAIGHT INTO THE
DRINK! WE'LL DIRECT FIRE OVER YOUR HEADS
TO SUPPRESS THE BOGIES!")

"BRACE!" TC yells, and Rapinoe drives full-speed into the water, about fifteen feet from the shore...the .50 caliber mini gun outfitted on the FB
pours a stream of high-velocity rounds into the pursuing vehicles, obliterating all of the men and most of the trucks. The Ranger Team clambers out
of their wrecked vehicle and aboard the extraction vehicle...Topher tells TC that VB is
"gone"...

BLINDSPOT 1

Chapter Summary

Natasha Zapata disappears suddenly, without saying goodbye to anyone, not even READE...or NAT...when she reaches a safe haven, she contacts Reade by text: READE: go to the place where I first told u that I ❤️ U...there's a burner in the men's 🚻, left of the bowl and up...I LOVE U and our 🧑🏻

Reade fries the phone, leaves baby Nat with Patterson, and goes to locate the burner...forty minutes later, Zapata calls: "WTF, NATASHA! NAT HAS BEEN CRYING FOR YOU FOR TWO DAYS! AND I'M A WRECK! WHAT-THA-FUCK!!?"

"I KNOW!...*I KNOW ALL OF THAT EDDIE!*... I didn't have a CHOICE, Baby...I killed two CIA operatives on this last mission...they must have been rogue... NOW do you see why I had to run? As far as CIA is concerned, I'M the rogue murderer of two duly sworn CIA agents..."

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

"I miss her SO MUCH, Reade...it's killing me every second away from her. And YOU, of course."

Reade answers, "Yeah, of course I get it. I've probably got 'eyes' on me, and so we'd better be quick..."

I'll get a clean phone from Patterson; if you can get your your 'go bag', turn on that phone and Blondie will lock out the signal so that it can't be traced...it will take me until 1900 or so to collect Nat, and make the other arrangements. Where are you?"

"Marshals' safe house. It's off the grid-by the time CIA is onto it, I'll be gone...RIGHT?"

"Right...*Marshals' safe house* ...that means ALLISON, at the least, is looped in...Keaton?"

"Doing what he can, but the NSAA gave the 'kill order.' CIA Director is on board. They'll be contacting NYO soon."

Reade thinks for a few moments, then decides. "Hang tight until 1900...if I don't call by then, wait until 2100; if not THEN, Patterson will get word to you on next steps."

"OK...remember, Reade: more than either of us, NAT has be safe. I'd die if we have to leave her, but I won't put her in danger."

"We're the CIRG, Ma...WE took down Sandstorm, remember? Stay safe-Te Quiero, Loca."

"Te quiero mas...cuidate."

Reade stops by their condo before stopping at Patterson's...he takes only enough baby clothes and diapers for a night (he keeps an emergency fund of \$20,000 cash on hand, and Zapata's 'go bag' will have additional cash reserves)...at Patterson's, he briefs her on the situation with Tasha, and she is on board before he's even finished talking. He waits while she 'ghosts' her friend's 'on the run' phone, and sends her a text: *Meet Reade at Lincoln Hwy and State Rte 27 (2240hrs)...he has NAT with him* He thanks the Blonde tech wiz, kisses her goodbye, and leaves with his sleeping Daughter. Patterson disables all of the area's traffic, security, and street cams (including any electronic eyes from surveillance teams), and Reade is able to slip out the back of the building and into his SUV.

Father and Daughter reach their destination by 2228...a joyous Natasha Zapata is waiting...

Chapter End Notes

SPANISH TRANSLATIONS

Te quiero, Loca (I love you, Crazy Woman)
Te Quiero mas-cuidate (I love you more-be careful)

DEFINITIONS

NSAA: NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

KILL ORDER: ORDER TO TERMINATE PERSON/PERSONS

CIRG: CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE GROUP

NIGHT SHIFT 2

Chapter Notes

See the end of the chapter for [notes](#)

THE NIGHT SHIFT-JORDAN AND TC

Bolting upright in the bed he shares with Jordan Alexander, TC screams and thrashes about, waking the sound-asleep brunette surgeon and likely their baby: "RPG! EVERYONE DOWN! GET DOWN!"

"Okay, Okay, you're OKAY, T, you're good....shhhh...shhhhhh....you're HOME, babe...just breath...okay..." Jordan wraps her arms about him, does her best to calm him and bring him back from his hellish nightmare. "C'mon-let's go get the baby; c'mon, T."

He allows her to lead him to their baby's nursery, where their Son is howling to beat the band. They bring him to their room, after checking his diaper and warming a fresh bottle for him. TC tells her that he is settled down now, and wants to hold the little fellow while he feeds and goes back to sleep. Watching the New Father, and the tender way he gazes at the infant, Jordan wonders at the contrast between the battle-hardened, Special Forces Operator and fearless surgeon, and the careful and caring Father. Once Tolan is back asleep, TC carefully places the baby into the cradle on his Mother's 'side' of the big bed, then he and Jordan get back under the covers. Jordan verifies once more that TC is fine and completely calm, she goes back to sleep, safe in his brawny arms.

In the morning, at breakfast, she insists that TC see some one in behavioral health at the VA. He's not getting better, he's getting WORSE. He says he'll think about it.

THE NIGHT SHIFT-JORDAN AND TC

Drew Alister is in a good mood-FANTASTIC, actually. Rick is not scheduled to return to the Middle East for the next 90-120 days (though as anyone familiar with the US Military is aware, "not scheduled" is not definitive.) They'll have time to decide exactly how they'll approach *coming out*-when, and IF they will do so. Both are still 'active on the rolls', and revealing their relationship is almost to bring ramifications. They have already planned to get married, in a state other than TEXAS, of course. As Drew isn't due on shift until 6pm, he and Rick plan to hit the gym, shop for food, + visit the Post Exchange at Fort Sam

Houston, hopefully leaving time for some 'hanky panky' before then.

BLINDSPOT-PATTERSON; BLACKLIST-RED REDDINGTON

"Red. It's Patterson." Dembe hands a *clean* cell phone to Raymond "Red" Reddington, notorious international fixer and criminal facilitator. Red greets the FBI agent in that bellicose, expansive way he has with people whom he truly enjoys. She explains enough of the Zapata-Reade situation so that Red understands the reasons behind the request she's making: three million dollars to secure safe passage for two adults, one infant, and a location where they'll be able to live anonymously, and out of the reach of Federal agencies-basically, exactly what he'd done for the Keens (Liz, Tom, and their child).

"I'm sending Dembe to collect them, Red announces. Half a million is the cost for transport and security. Not a PENNY MORE."

When Patterson questions this largess, his response is simplicity itself: "When it concerns Madeleine Burke, I'm inclined to generosity-that Woman should have been in the deepest part of CIA's most remote black-site long ago. Consider it partial payment for past considerations."

"Good enough, Patterson responds. Expect a wire-transfer by early evening; I'm sending coordinates...just a second...to your handset now. Mr. Reddington...CIA is onto them, and so there's a CLOCK." May I contact you again if need be?"

Red laughs. "What a question, Lovey One. BY the way: if Mrs. Burke did have anything to do with your friend's current difficulties, I'll suss it out. Good day, Agent Patterson." He hands the telephone back to Dembe, asking that he relay coordinates for one of his safe houses in Paterson, NJ to the Lovely Blonde One, and Rich Dot Com

Patty_cake134: tash...GREEN on reddington...get to patersonnj ASAP...coords to follow

TZ007Z: thank GOD. ❤️ u pats. lotslotslotslotslots

Patty_cake134: same same-❤️ allaU-reade and + the little one 🙌 GOOD?

TZ007Z: reade's a rock...nat is nat 🤖

Patty_134: 🙄 on a swivel, mi'ja...only rich and jane are looped in our side-red + 🍷 outside

TZ007Z: copy-if u knew how much this means to us

Patty_134: ❤️❤️❤️ = an extra 1 ❤️

Chapter End Notes

For the purposes of this fic TC, Drew, Rick, and Topher are all Army Rangers Officers. (Technically, Drew went to Ranger School in season 4. US Army rangers are elite Special Forces; per my cousin 'if a Ranger Team is deployed, it isn't to hand out birthday cards.'

BLACKLIST 1

Chapter Summary

Preparations are made for Zapata, Reade, and their Baby to flee the the US Red Reddington and his organization and Mr 'Ice Cream' are enlisted to 'grease' the wheels.

Dembe Zuma returns to his Boss' current HQ 17 hours after departing that morning. Two flights, including one outside of the continental U.S., making the contacts (in person) that Raymond Reddington had committed to in his discussion with Patterson (and others)...on one of his flights he'd met his Lover, Nas Kamal (of the NSA)-a little known fact-especially by the public at large-is that the Intelligence Agencies of all Super Power nations coordinate with large international criminal enterprises to facilitate certain operations that can't legally be undertaken by law enforcement.

Officially, Nas is "working" Reddington through Dembe; unofficially their relationship has very little to do with national security.

Red has been busy as well-arranging the requested safe house, transportation (both air and sea), security (while enroute to their safe haven, and beyond) and the necessary (false) identity documents. By the time Denbe arrives, and both men, after a brief they retire for the night.

With much more time to create the new identities Zapata, Reade, and Nat will need, Patterson, Rich Dot Com, and Ice Cream are able provide unshakable picture ID, birth, education, and nationality documents for Spanish National Consuela Rebeca Ramos Perez, age 32 (Zapata);US National Lorenz Paul Shaw, age 33 (Reade), and dual National Magaly Ayumi Shaw Ramos, age 14 mos (Nat). "Consuela Ramos" is an IT professional; "Lorez Shaw" is a former Military Contractor.

Patterson liquidates some her Wizardville stock to pay Red's fee of a half-million U.S.Dollars. Rich contributes some of his hidden crypto-currency stash to pay Ice Cream's fee (\$100,000). Wheels are turning, deals are brokered. 'The Shaw-Ramos' family will remain

in Red's safe house for six more days; by that time all arrangements should have been made for their travel out of the country.

Meanwhile, Jake Keaton leads an inside-out 'churn' of his Agency; his 'covert' investigation is less subtle: find out who turned two loyal Agency Operators, and how they were turned. He suspects MADELINE BURKE...

Weller is placed in the AD chair (acting) during Reade's absence-the cover story is that the family is on extended personal leave (family emergency-full 'back-fill' courtesy of Patterson and Rich). back-fill is all documentation and other 'records' created to make the cover story plausible. 'Moves' are being made, wheels are turning...

Please [drop by the Archive and comment](#) to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!