**THE HEAT**

(Ashburn & Mullins must work a case together)

(Mullins is sitting in her car, polishing her gun. Ashburn approaches, knocks on her window, startling Mullins who swings her gun around at her)

Mullins

Stop! Never approach me if I’m not expecting you!

Ashburn

(Ducks) Jesus! (recovering) Jesus! Jesus Christ! What are you, an animal?! You know what, you said you would stay off my case and where do I find you? Right here. Right here in front of Tatiana’s apartment.

Mullins

What? I live here.

Ashburn

Oh okay, that’s hilarious. Yeah, okay, you know what’s not funny? That you stole a confidential FBI case file.

Mullins

Well, that’s funny. I don’t remember any of that.

Ashburn

I’m gonna say one more time: Stand down, Officer.

Mullins

Fuck off, Officer.

Ashburn

Oh, okay, guess what? Now you’ve really done it. I’m gonna call my boss.

Mullins

Yeah, you do that Tattle-Tits! Fuckin’ narc!

Ashburn

Unbelievable. Unbelievable… (on the call to her boss) It’s Ashburn, sir. I’m gonna need authorization to suspend a police officer from my investigation, sir… No, I have no problem working with the local authorities, and I understand how this might sound coming from me, but I think this individual might actually be mentally unstable… Yes, I understand she grew up on these streets and she’d be an asset to this investigation but I just can’t work with her… Uh huh, uh huh… what?! No, of course I want the promotion but… yes, I understand. Okay, I’ll make it work. Yes. (call ends but to save face she pretends she’s still speaking with him.) Sir, no need to take someone’s badge. I think I can, uh, I think I can work something out sir. Alright, thank you. Bye-bye. (back to Mullins) You know I, just, I think you and I got off on the wrong foot.

Mullins

Ahhh…

Ashburn

I don’t know Boston. You obviously have a lot of resources and a lot of knowledge about the area that could be, could be useful.

Mullins

Probably *very*.

Ashburn

So, uh, maybe we can work together on this.

Mullins

I don’t need your help to take down Larkin.

Ashburn

You know, you wouldn’t even know about Larkin if it wasn’t for me, so obviously the FBI can get information that you can’t, okay, and there’s a lot more where that comes from, *a lot*.

Mullins

Maybe I just need to hear a little ‘*I need your help, Mullins’*

Ashburn

No. I won’t be doing that.

Mullins

Okay, well get your ass back to your car.

Ashburn

Okay, this is ridiculous, okay? I’m an FBI agent. You’re a police officer –

Mullins

‘*I need your help, Mullins’*

Ashburn

I need your help, Mullins.

Mullins

Oh God, what is this? Is this a whisper party? I want that 3rd floor to hear it. ‘*I need your help, Mullins*’ And then maybe give me a little echo on that ‘Mullins’.

Ashburn

I need your help, Mullins, Mullins, Mullins…

Mullins

(exiting her car, pushes past her)

Move, move, move! God, even in that you’re annoying. I will work with you as long as we’re clear that this is my case.

Ashburn

That’s actually not correct. You – this isn’t –

Mullins

Awesome, glad you see it my way.

(They both start heading into the apartment building to speak to the potential witness)

Ashburn

(fakes her out to get ahead) Careful of the car. (Mullins flinches, then realizes she’s been duped and races to catch up)

Mullins

Damn it!

(They both race to the door and try to squeeze through together so that one isn’t in front of the other) Stand back, I got it.

Ashburn

No, I got it. You stand back.

(The both stumble in together and race to her door)

Okay, let me take the lead on this. I’m a trained interviewer.

Mullins

Interviewer? What are you, fuckin’ Barbara Walters? I just thought we were gonna go in there and bring in some heat on her.

Ashburn

I’m sorry, what does that even mean? What does that mean?

Mullins

Me and you, we’re the heat. We go in there, we interrogate her, we scare the shit out of her—

Ashburn

See, we don’t say interrogation, it’s much too aggressive. Rule #1: catch more with sugar than a stick.

Mullins

That’s a horrible fuckin’ saying

Ashburn

Okay, well, what we like to do is create a genuine personal interest in the subject allowing them to open up, but from then I’m going to, uh, perform instant personality assessment based on the Myers-Briggs theory, Thematic Apperception Test, and a few, well, a few others I won’t, I won’t bore you with—

Mullins

Oh my God, well that’s – I am balls deep in boredom. Alright as long as you don’t do that whole Goddamned long explanation again, we’ll try it your way first… Only cuz you’re older.

(They knock at the door)