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## Intruder Alert by Skylar Duhe

A hot pink Nissan Skyline pulls into an open space among the nine other modified cars in Alex's garage. The only real light is radiating from some neon's installed to light the platform for her three street racing bikes. The car stops, and Alex removes the key from the ignition. She reaches over and removes the blindfold from Janet's eyes.

"Sorry, I don't trust anyone knowing where I live." Alex says.

Janet looks around and her eyes get wide as she sees all the other cars around her. "Are all of these cars for you?"

Alex's attention turns to the door leading into the house. "That's weird." She opens the car, without breaking her gaze on the open door.

Janet looks around to figure out what she is staring at. "What's weird? The millions of dollars' worth of cars in this place? Maybe a little."

Alex, again ignores the comment and stares off into the distance. "My door is cracked open."

"Roommate?" Janet said.

"Jessica, is out of town." Alex gets out of the car and turns back to Janet before shutting the door. "Stay here."

"What? You can't go in there!" Janet struggles with her seat belt frantically. "Let's get out of here and call the cops!" Alex shuts the door quietly on Janet's screams, and puts her finger up to her mouth telling her to shush. She begins creeping towards the open door to her house. She pulls out her phone and clicks her kitchen lights on through her remote app. Nothing.

She slowly opens the door wider and steps in the kitchen. She hits the light manually. Still no light. "Well that's convenient." She looks back to her phone and clicks all the lights in her house, one by one. Nothing.

Her hands shake as she tries the last light. The colored accent lights in the home theater room switch on. The dim blue lighting slightly illuminates the kitchen, revealing the dark figure that stands behind her.

The figure is wearing all black, and grabs Alex from behind. She locks her arm around Alex's neck, and puts her in a choke hold. She drags her further into the darkness of the kitchen.

"What the hell?" Alex, reaches behind her towards the attacker's head. She feels the texture of a slick face mask under her fingers. There was nothing to grip. She moves her hands further back and grabs her attacker around the neck. She braces herself and swiftly flips her over her back. The figure flies into a stack of boxes by the door.

Alex feels around the darkness for anything she can reach.

The figure jumps up into an attack stance as Alex's hand finally lands on a bat by the door.

"Alex? Are you ok?" Janet walks up to the open doorway and peeks inside.

The dark figure turns to Janet.

Alex turns to the doorway. "I said stay in the damn car!"

The figure kicks the door shut and thrusts Janet backwards.

Janet frantically starts beating on the door. "Alex?"

The figure's attention turns back to Alex.

Alex swings the bat as attacker ducks, then shoots back up and kicks the bat out of her hands. The bat flies across the kitchen. Alex steps backwards, and her eyes widen with fear. "Who are you? What do you want from me?"

Janet is still pounding on the door. "Should I call the cops? What address do I give them? I have no idea where we are."

Alex rolls her eyes, and her back hits the wall. The only place to go is forward. Frozen in fear, she remembers her training. She takes a deep breath and steps towards her attacker.

The dark figure runs at her swinging. Alex dodges, and swings back. The figure blocks her punch and spins around and swiftly kicks Alex's in the ribs. Alex hits the floor gasping for air.

The attacker pulls out some sort of unrecognizable weapon.

Alex whimpers. "What now?"

The attacker squeezes the handle and the weapon powers on with a blue pulse shooting up the blade. The figure runs towards Alex and swings the blue saber at her chest.

Alex bends backwards. The saber misses her by an inch and slices through the coat rack. Alex backs up towards the den, successfully dodging each swing. Her attacker takes one more swing at Alex's knees. Alex jumps over the blade and kicks the figure in the chest.

The figure flies into the wall with a thud. The saber hits the floor and the blue light fades.

"Thank god Jessica taught me how to fight." Alex dives for the blade. She fumbles with the handle looking for the on switch. Her hand slides over a switch and she flips it on. The saber sparks to life. Alex looks up at her attacker who is standing frozen, as if she were holding an invisible ball.

The dark figure's body glows bright blue. The color moves towards the attacker's hands and glows brighter. Blue plasma balls fly from the gloves in Alex's direction.

"Nooooo." Alex screams and pulls the saber in between her and the bright blue ball. When the plasma ball and the saber make contact, they both dissolve. Alex throws the useless saber handle down to the ground.

She lunges at the dark figure. They both fall to the ground in the dim light of the home theater room. Alex pins her attacker rips off the mask.

"What the hell Jess?" Alex smacks her in the chest.

"You like your new weapons?" Jessica grinned shamelessly.

Alex rolled her eyes and jumped to her feet.

Janet finally forces open the door. She stands in the doorway holding a crowbar. Her whole body is shaking.

Alex walks over to Janet, and takes the crowbar from her hands. "Janet. I'd like you to meet my roommate."