



## One-shot: S.H.I.E.L.D. - Last resorts

### Previously

S.H.I.E.L.D. is in dire straits! They have their agents spread thin tracking down powerful supervillains that escaped prison during the breakout and are unable to combat the Masters' increasingly aggressive advances.

The Masters have been making bold moves, they've broken into Avengers mansion and stole the Asgardian Destroyer armour, an explosion destroyed the mansion shortly afterwards, taking the Fantastic 4 and several agents of the Masters down with it.

### Scene 1

Ruins of Avenger's mansion, 19<sup>th</sup> October, 21:00 EDT

Maria Hill, Clay Quartermain and a SHIELD Crew are trying to clean up the ruins, the body of the Invisible Woman is carried away

Nick Fury: (On telephone) how bad is it Maria?

Maria Hill: We've recovered the bodies of Reed Richards and Sue Storm, and there's enough of Johnny lying around to suspect he too is gone.

Nick Fury: And Ben?

Maria Hill: No sign of him

Nick Fury: They take any of the bad guys with them?

Maria Hill: We've recovered the bodies of 5 HYDRA agents, but we suspect there were others here.

Nick Fury: Get as much of the inventory as possible, we need to know just what was stolen from the mansion that warranted this much destruction

### Scene 2

Masters' HQ, 20<sup>th</sup> October 01:03 UTC

Calculator: I got the item you requested; now I expect the rest of my payment

Vandal: You lost the squad we sent in

Calculator: There were complications

Lex Luthor: Our expectations that you dealt with complications, the Fantastic Four could've been of use to us, there were ways of incapacitating them that would not have cited their destruction.

Calculator: Fine, then consider my services no longer available to you. (He turns off the channel)

Vandal: That might present a problem, he knows too much

Ra's al Ghul: But he doesn't know everything, like the fact that we already found a way to activate the destroyer, thanks to some Enjanoan tech, even managed to improve its armour. (In LexCorp Labs the Destroyer is already moving and turning its head) shall we send it after the Calculator

Vandal: No, send it to Washington D.C., then unleash it upon the Triskelion. S.H.I.E.L.D. will fall.

### Scene 3

The Triskelion, Washington DC, 00:03 EDT

Coulson: I've already been in contact with May, Fitz, Bobbi, Simmons and Quake, still struggling to get a hold of Romanov.

Nick Fury: I'll see to it, in the meantime, go dark. S.H.I.E.L.D. is taking it hard at the moment, if we go down, you'll need to step up.

Coulson: Understood director.

Black Widow: So, you want me to join their team. I must ask why? They already have a specialist in May.

Nick Fury: Because I want you to be my eyes and ears in the team and there's no-one else I'd trust to do that. (Multiple explosions occur) now what (He looks outside and sees the Destroyer armour amongst 2 dozen HYDRA agents beginning to raid the base.) Terrific, go dark Natasha (Black Widow nods and dives out of the base)

Nick Fury: (Sets off the base alarm) black alert, prepare the Mandroids. Samson, come in

Samson: I read you Fury.

Nick Fury: Meet up with Agent Hill at the co-ordinates I'm about to send to you, give him the password "Starbright" SHIELD is under siege, and its important our contingents are in place now.

Samson: Understood director. (Nick looks outside and sees his forces being slaughtered by the Destroyer)

Nick Fury: Maria, the Triskelion is under attack

Maria: We're only 20 minutes out

Nick Fury: No Maria, go dark.

Maria: You're sounding like you've already lost

Nick Fury: Just be glad you're not Director now, but you might be very, very soon. (The door is smashed down and two HYDRA agents burst in, fists aflame, before

they fire, Nick Fury shoots both of them dead) computer, initiate Oasis protocol (a lead seal surrounds the room) I've still got another call to make.

Nick Fury: Abigail Brand, this is Fury, can you hear me?

Abigail: We know about the attack on the Triskelion, do you want any assistance?

Nick Fury: Yes, we really... (He sees footage of the Destroyer destroying the Mandroids) no, stay and prepare for a siege on your base, the Masters aren't gonna stop at this one.

Abigail: Understood Director (Fury turns off external coms and activates internal coms)

Nick Fury: All surviving SHIELD agents are to go dark, now! (The mandroids begin to retreat as the Destroyer advances) I may end up regretting this. (He enters a secret elevator shaft) passcode Firefly

Computer: Passcode accepted, what floor please?

Nick Fury: Detention level, I want to see our one remaining prisoner (The elevator descends into the underground levels, arriving at the location, where chained up is General 'Thunderbolt' Ross) it's quite amazing you know, there's a cosmic event that releases every prisoner on the planet from their cell, and as soon as it happens, you order SHIELD Agents to chain you up, why?

General Ross: I wanted to show the world the threat of the Hulk, and I ended up becoming one, even more powerful.

Nick Fury: You tried to frame him, twice

General Ross: The Hulk is a threat, I am a threat.

Nick Fury: Yes, well (he shows a picture of the Destroyer) that's an even bigger one.

General Ross: What the hell is it?

Nick Fury: The Destroyer, gave the subways a good shaking a few years back. It was deactivated but clearly it isn't now. You'd better let some anger out, General, or we're all gonna be the victims of that monster. We need the Red Hulk! (The floor above them is burst open, General Ross begins to grow in muscle size, his skin begins to turn Red, the chains begin to shatter and he becomes the Red Hulk)

Red Hulk: Where do I find him? (The Destroyer bursts into the room) found him (he launches himself at the Destroyer but the Destroyer fires a blast out of his face, hitting the Red Hulk and stopping his forward momentum, he falls to the ground, creating a crater on impact, Red Hulk recovers as the Destroyer fires upon him again, the blast has no impact on the Red Hulk, the Red Hulk charges at the Destroyer, the Destroyer steps to the side, and slams him on the back with both of its hands, the Red Hulk is fine) bad move (he back-swipes the Destroyer, it is sent flying backwards, but it returns to its feet, undamaged, the Red Hulk begins to glow, Nick Fury sees this and throws a fire extinguisher at the destroyer, shooting it as it approaches the Destroyer, causing it to explode. The Destroyer approaches Nick Fury as the Red Hulk

knocks it to the ground) I'll tear you apart (he pins the destroyer down and tries to peel open the helmet, but the Destroyer, fires blasts out of his hands into the Red Hulk's eyes, the Red Hulk rubs his eyes as the Destroyer swipes him off and into Nick Fury, Red Hulk gets up and sees the sparking body of Nick Fury) might've known (the Destroyer approaches) alright then (he is now fiery bright) come at me, tin can, he prepares for the attack, but he is attacked by an ice blast from the side, Killer Frost is on the scene)

Killer Frost: That should cool your temper (the Red Hulk walks against the ice blast but before he can reach out to Killer Frost, the Destroyer grabs him and throws him away and into a wall, the Red Hulk recovers but the Destroyer and Killer Frost are gone, in their places are several tanks of nerve gas, detonators explode and the gas spreads in the room, the Red Hulk breathes in the gases and coughs, and is knocked unconscious)

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1 hour later

Vandal Savage and Lex Luthor examine the Red Hulk's body, both wearing gas masks

Lex Luthor: It's incredible, he's still alive. We could use someone like him

Vandal: Many men have fought to find ways to control the Hulk, none have succeeded. It's best we find a way to end him once and for all.

Lex Luthor: Unfortunate, but I agree

Vandal: Our mission was a success, S.H.I.E.L.D. will not be holding back humanity any longer, and the Destroyer was under our total control

#### Scene 4

Unknown

The Enchantress reports to Surtur

Enchantress: He actually believes that the Destroyer armour was under his control. I activated it of course, won't it be ironic when their most powerful weapon is turned against them

Surtur: And Midgard will burn

#### Scene 5

Stacked Deck, Blüdhaven, 20<sup>th</sup> October 02:00 UTC

Sportsmaster, Madame Rouge and Icicle Jr are sitting at a table

Sportsmaster: It's lucky I found a way to get us all out in time. The Masters have forsaken us, I say we don't let that stand; we'll lay it into them.

Madame Rouge: And how do you propose we do that?

Sportsmaster: They may be taking over the planet but their position is slipping, an opportunity will present itself in due course, are you in?

Madame Rouge: I am

Icicle Jr: Me too