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Subject: Re: Cold Front

Posted by [artisticrainey](#) on Wed, 25 Jul 2012 21:46:50 GMT

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Gordon drove the Excavator while Callie looked over the image of the area. "We should be approaching the back of the lodge any second now," she said.

"F-A-B. I'm ready to start making this snow disappear. Too bad we can't just snap our fingers."

"You'd have to take your glove off to do that," she retorted, "and your fingers would freeze together."

"True, but it'd make our job here a whole lot easier."

"I know, but we've got the next best thing right now." After another minute, she nodded. "Okay, we're in position. Prepare for snow removal."

"All right." Gordon activated the maw, which quickly started removing the snow the back. "Snow's a lot faster to get rid of than debris."

"That's for sure. Good news is the sensors don't show any obstacles that could cause problems."

"Yeah, the last thing we need is to hit something that could cause the maw to be completely ineffective. Besides, Cassie's probably getting impatient to do something. The sooner we get done, the quicker she can get inside and check on the injured."

"F-A-B." Checking the monitors, she observed the distance from the back entrance. "We're within ten feet right now. We should stop within about three feet, right?"

"Check. Just a little more time, and we'll dig the rest of the way. That won't take long."

Callie smiled as she kept her eye on the monitor. Soon, the monitors showed they reached their goal. "Okay, Gordon, you can stop now. We're three feet away from the door."

"Then let's get out there and start digging. With the falling temperatures, we'll need the special shovels."

"Special shovels?" she asked curiously.

"Yeah. Brains developed shovels that can cut through snow like it was heated. We'll get through the snow in about 20 minutes."

"That's...awesome," she gasped. "They feel so light, too." She noticed the heat packs in the locker. "Gordon, want some for your hands?"

"You bet. Grab some for yourself, too. Think you can handle this kind of cold?"

"I survived a couple of Russian winters in the WSA. Let's get going."

They got outside and started digging through.

"A diameter of about four feet should be enough, don't you think?" she asked.

"I agree. That should be enough room to move people in and out of the lodge."

The pair started digging, and the shovels did exactly the task they were supposed to do.

Callie smiled. "We're at the door."

"Great! Contact Scott and let him know we can get inside now."

Pressing a button, she spoke into the microphone. "Mobile Control from Excavator."

Scott heard her confident voice. "Go ahead, Excavator. What's your status?"

"Our part of the mission's completed. The back entrance is safe for us to enter."

"F-A-B, Excavator. I'll let Jade know right away, since she and Indy are just about done in the Firefly. Come on back to Mobile Control and be ready to help out in other areas."

"On our way, Mobile Control. Out." She turned to Gordon. "Let's get out of here."

"All right. I'm just glad we didn't hit any sports cars. Can you imagine someone telling his insurance agent, 'My car was destroyed by International Rescue's Excavator'?"

"I don't think that agent would believe a word. He'd have to face much higher premiums."

The pair shared a laugh as the Excavator moved away from the area.