

# **DUTY CALLS**

by

Cheery Prawn 5

Copyright 2021

**BLACK SCREEN**

Staccato of automatic weapons and sporadic explosions with the background wail of an undulating air raid siren.

OVERWATCH

(deadpan A.I. audio)

Enemy UAV overhead.

TING! A bullet ricochets nearby followed by a BANG!

A man's baritone voice activates his mic.

DINO

Shit, that was-

CRACK! A body-armor hit.

DINO

ARGH! He cracked my body armor!

Max, what's your twenty?

A garbled and broken voice.

DINO

You broke up - adjust your mic!

A scratch of fingers brush against a microphone. A male tenor voice-

MAX

How's that, Dino? Can you read me?

DINO

Yeah. Hey, I'm down in the Bio Lab.

Where are you?

MAX

Rooftop. You want me to come down?

DINO

No, stay put. Do you have eyes on the tower?

MAX

Ten-four.

DINO

I think that's where the shot came from. Be careful, that asshole nailed me through a wall.

MAX

Great, a hack.

DINO

Can you call in a cluster bomb?

MAX

Got one better - hold on.

OVERWATCH

Precision airstrike incoming.

DINO

Nice.

The ROAR of an A-10 fighter passes overhead, followed by the WHIR of its 30mm nose cannon.

OVERWATCH

Precision airstrike successful.

(beat)

Gas approaching. New safe zone located.

DINO

We gotta go, man.

PING

MAX

Way ahead of you. I pinged the map on the heads up display.

DINO

Got it. Cover me.

MAX

Go.

A door crashes open followed by footsteps on asphalt and gravel. Bullets WHIZ and ZING.

MAX

Keep running, I see him. He's near the heli-pad.

Ear-splitting rapid fire machine gun fire. In the background, a very faint young boy's voice yells "Suck my dick, mother fu-!"

MAX

Ha! Got him.

DINO

Little bastard kisses his mother with that mouth.

A doorbell followed by a barking dog.

MAX

You in a good spot?

Barking dog continues.

DINO

Yeah. Shut up!

MAX

What?

DINO

Nothing. Go.

MAX

Jumping.

A parachute WHOOSH and gunfire.

MAX

I'm-

The dog barks cutoff Max's transmission.

DINO

Damn dog. Get the door!

A woman's voice "Who is it?" And a garbled response.

MAX

Dude, where are you? Revive me!

A hand clasps a mic that causes muffled and garbled speech.

MAX

Come on, man! I need stim. I'm  
dying here!

The mic interference stops.

DINO

Sorry, Max. Hold on.

Mic scratching starts again with high volume muffled shouts.

DINO

Alright, coming.

A Stim vial cracks and pneumatic injection of a syringe.

MAX

(sigh of relief)  
Geez, keep your head in the game.

DINO

Yeah, sorry. Dominos. My old lady  
didn't have any cash.

OVERWATCH

Gas approaching. New safe zone  
located.

(beat)

Final circle. Only five enemies  
remaining.

MAX

Pay attention, douchebag. Keep your  
old lady in line, man.

DINO

Yeah, yeah. At least I got an old  
lady.

MAX

I'm only twelve, boomer.

DINO

I've got underwear older than you.  
Your six!

MAX

I said twelve, Gramps.

DINO

No, six-o'clock! Behind you!

An explosion - BANG! A moment of absolute silence followed by ringing in your ears.

MAX

Gah!

Gunfire. A brief shout of expletives in Spanish as an enemy is killed.

DINO

Saved your punk-ass again.

MAX

I oughta kill you myself.

DINO

Whatever. You can't kill a team mate. Come on. Upstairs.

Rapid footsteps on concrete stairs. They halt.

DINO

Check your heartbeat monitor.

An electronic TIC...TIC...TIC.

MAX

Clear. Go ahead.

DINO

Okay. Going in.

A door crashes open. A barrage of automatic weapons and explosions.

All sirens and gunfire stops.

OVERWATCH

You've been sorted. Better luck next time.

DINO

You dick. You said it was clear.

MAX

(laughter)

Yeah. And you said I couldn't kill a team mate.

DINO

You're an asshole. Play again?

MAX

Yeah, one more. Then I gotta do homework.

END