"TRACE OF EVIL"
C.S.I Fanfiction By Denise Robertson

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For a while it seemed that the whole team were either moving up or onto other things.
Sara had left the unit completely and had joined the federal confines of the F.B.I rather than a relatively comfortable lab.
Greg had moved more out of trace and into the field work like he had always wanted to.
Nick , warrick and all the other guys were still hauling ass like they always were.

Grissom was as much of an enigma as ever.
Everyone just assumed that he wasn't dating anyone but he was actually seeing the girl who had come from New York C.S.I to take over from Sara.

The guys were on a break when Greg burst in practically gleeful…
"Hey guys guess what?!" Warrick damn near fell off his chair "Jeez Greg !! you trying to make your own crime scene?!"
"Sorry…oh right …y'know the new girl marion? Well apparently her and Grissom are y'know?" said Greg.
Nick looked at Warrick "you're kidding right? Our Grissom?.. we haven't even met her yet"

Greg said "yeah that's true but from what I heard she worked here years ago as a tech in trace before I did , left before Sara came…around the time holly was killed"
Warrick said "Now hold on …wasn't she kinda geeky looking , short dark hair?"

Nick replied "Yeah I remember now…"
Just then Brass walked in with Marion "Guys this is Marion Mullino…C.S.I 3 "
They nearly fell out of their chairs , gone was the cubby geeky tech freak and in her place was a confident striking young woman.
"Hi guys…" she said…
All they could do was wave in shock…"oh Greg could you keep it to yourself?"
"uh yeah sure" he said as he shot out the door.

As he left Marion sat down for a coffee knowing the other guys were looking at her as if to say "well??".

"what ? why are you looking at me like that?" she asked.

Nick said "Is it true that you and Grissom…" his voice trailed off as his bosses impeccable timing showed itself…
"don't stop talking on my account" he smiled , knowing he'd caught them gossiping.
Looking sheepish they replied "sorry boss"

Marion curled in embarrassment thinking to herself "Oh god shoot me now!" till she heard a voice say "Marion can I see you for a second?"
And she followed Grissom to his office…
As he shut the door behind her she sighed "I don't know how people found out I really don't…im sorry" just as she tried to finish he kissed her and said "don't worry about it …not our problem"
Just as they turned round they saw a few shocked faces run In different directions and both burst out laughing.
When they stopped laughing Marion said "seriously though wont we have to be careful? I mean is this allowed?"
He looked at her and smiled "we were seeing each other before you came here so it makes no difference"

Just as they were talking Brass knocked at the door "Oh sorry guys…Marion can I see him alone for a second?"
"Yeah sure…I'll see you guys later" she said and left.

Brass sat down and said "I take it things are going well?" Grissom smiled and said " You here personally or professionally Jim?"

"In a way both Gil …I know you care about one another a lot…" started Brass
Grissom just looked at him "Spit it out Jim if this concerns her I especially need to know"
He sighed "alright…I don't know if this means anything but this package came for you today…"

Grissom looked at it " its an envelope Jim I've dealt with worse?"
He replied "Look at the sender…"

So he turned it over "CRAIG MASON"
A familiar feeling turned his stomach…
This was the son of Judge Mason who eventually turned out to be Paul Mallander Grissom's nemesis , who had killed his mother then shot himself before his trial.

He reluctantly opened it while Jim watched , and a birthday card fell out containing a made up i.d card with Marion's picture with "SHE'S NEXT" scrawled across it.

Mallander was a psychotic killer who was incredibly clever , who killed men on his murdered fathers birthday , but even though Grissom's birthday fell on this date he had never even attempted to try like he seemed to have some kind of respect for him.

But now it seemed as though Craig was following in his father's footsteps by threatening the one precious thing that Grissom had.

Jim watched as his friend stared at the card "Gil…what do we do we cant take her off duty she just got here …and if he found her here? He would find her elsewhere because im assuming that where she went you would probably follow"
Grissom threw him a determined look "For once Jim you assume right"
Jim replied "Cant you pair her with Nick , Warrick , or even Catherine? You wont always be on the same case together"
Grissom stood up "you said it yourself Jim…where she goes I go…end of story" and he left the room.

Once he had left despite Grissom's wishes to deal with this his way ,Jim put an A.P.B on Craig and a permanent watch on both Marion's and Grissom's apartment.

Later that day Grissom called Warrick into his office while Marion was out working on a case.

When he got there he saw the look on his bosses face and thought he was getting a warning or something for gossiping.

"Shut the door Warrick we have to talk" said Grissom without looking up.
He sat down and started "Look boss we're sorry about before…we…what's wrong?"
Grissom stopped him "its not about that … do you remember Craig Mason? Well it seems that he's all grown up now…"
Warrick looked confused "what do you mean?" with that he tossed over the envelope that brass had given him.
After studying it he let out a sigh "damn…so you guys really are close and he's attacking the thing that you care about most"
Grissom looked up "the ONLY thing I care about that much but this stays between us for now only Brass knows"

Warrick nodded "sure…whatever you need" and he left.

By now Marion was outside her apartment when she noticed a police car parked just out of the way , so she went to see what was going on she knocked on the window "what are you guys doing here?" the officer didn't really want to answer but said "sorry ma'am orders of captain Brass , we have to" She couldn't understand , she thought Jim was a friend so she shot back to the lab and stormed into Jim's office.

"What the hell are you playing at ?! I thought we were friends jim? Don't you trust me or something does Gil know?" she yelled at him.

Grissom heard all the commotion…"What's going on Jim? … Marion?"

She said " Why don't you ask the uniforms outside my apartment?"

Grissom turned and said to Jim "I thought I told you to stay out of it?!"

Marion stopped and looked at him "You knew about this? … Gil?"

Jim looked at him said " you never told her?" Gil just looked at her " I wanted to keep you out of it "

Brass interrupted "you should have told her … she had a right to know" Grissom gave him a look that shook him.

Marion said "Look you two sort it out …even though its about me I don't have a GODDAMN SAY!" and she stormed out where she ran into Warrick.

"Hey…what's going on" he asked

"Grissom , Brass , goddamn it! I swear im gonna stick them both under the fume hood!!" then she finally stopped for breath. "c'mon calm down what's wrong?" he said. So Marion went on to explain what had happened and although warrick knew why he couldn't say anything but did say to her "Look he probably did it because he cares and so does Jim as a friend"

She stared at him "you know something don't you? … if you are my friend you tell me … please"

So he sat her down and told her everything from "Hallo-weird" right up till now. When he had finished he noticed she had gone very quiet "you ok?" he asked.

She replied "uh…yeah I guess , I think I better go talk to him " and she went round to his office.

Grissom was sitting alone when she went in , he got up and he said "Marion I'm sorry …I thought I was doing the right thing" she stopped him before he said anymore "Gil its ok… warrick told me everything , I know he wasn't supposed to but I made him…" and she hugged him like she couldn't let go.

Over her shoulder warrick and Brass watched through the window and he smiled at them , and they left them to it.

Grissom was the first to say "we do need some kind of plan though , I have to look into this" Marion said "Its another case Gil we will deal with it like any other but together ok?"

So he decided to call a meeting and got everyone together Nick , warrick , Catherine , Greg and Brass everyone was on it.

He started by saying "By now you will probably know that Marion and I are together , have been for months"

Catherine said "Ok? So why all the big guns , what's this about?" Now it was Marion's turn " well Gil received a package recently from a Craig Mason who I know you have all heard of , Paul Mallander was his father and he blames Gil for his father's death , so he is threatening me to get to him TRACE is testing for prints ,D.N.A everything , Greg? Your guys find anything?"

Greg replied "yeah actually , there is like a billion to one chance that its not Craig Mason , I also found out that he was kicked out of school for time-keeping and violent behaviour towards his teachers"

Catherine piped up "So what do we do ? should Marion and Grissom be on this case?"

Marion replied "Why not? As far as Craig is concerned I know nothing about him so it gives me a better opportunity to investigate" After the meeting Marion went to her office to try and dig up what she could on the

Mason family. Apart from knowing Craig was adopted and his father was a psychopath , there seemd to be no trace of his adopted mother.

A few days later Marion received a phone call telling her that Craig's adopted mother was in a mental institution and without telling Grissom or anyone else she went to see her.

As she went in she thought she saw a young man watching her , but didn't think anything of it and went in.

The Doctor said "Don't stay too long , you wont really get much sense out of her" she thanked him and went over to her "Mrs Mason? My name is Marion and I'm from the Las Vegas Crime Lab… can I talk to you for a moment?

She just shook her head and said nothing.

"I need to ask about Craig" Just as she finished asking , Nick and Warrick walked in and just looked at Marion.

So she made her excuses and left.

Outside Nick said "Grissom's looking for you and he know's you're here and he's pissed about it … why didn't you tell him or us?!"

Warrick said "This case involves all of us especially when its ONE of us"

Marion said "Look I'm sorry… maybe I should have told you , but it didn't do any good…I couldn't get anything out of her" she stopped suddenly…

Nick and Warrick looked at each other

"Marion? You ok?" asked Nick.

She looked at him "Uh yeah I'm ok…uh-oh…" and was sick all over the side-walk.

"oh god… that was embarrassing…I'm sorry " she said

Warrick said "don't worry about it , lets just get back to the lab… you come with me and Nick can take your car back ok?"

She tried to argue with them but the guys were having none of it.

Driving back Warrick asked her " is there anything you should be telling me? That I should know about?"

She sighed "I promise I wont do anything else on this case without telling you guys ok?"

He said "I mean…personally… if you're sick should you be working?" he noticed that she had gone very quiet.

"Talk to me…you can trust me" he promised her.

She took a deep breath "ok…I'm not sick …not really…oh god…"

He was getting more worried "so what's wrong?"

She looked at him "you cannot tell anyone…especially not Grissom not yet anyway…it wasn't intentional I swear …I'm pregnant"

Warrick had never looked so shocked "Damn!!…. you gotta tell him"

By now they were back at the lab and Nick appeared at the window "What did I miss now?"

Marion and Warrick looked at each other and laughed

"I'll tell you later Nick" she said.

"What? No fair!" he replied in mock indignation

Walking in the door , Grissom was already waiting looking seriously annoyed

Marion said "uh-oh" Nick and Warrick shot in different directions shouting "You're on you own!"

"Thanks a lot!!" she shouted after them… Grissom walked towards her saying "I thought that we were dealing with this together? You cant' hold stuff like this from me!"

"Look…I'm sorry , I didn't want to miss the opportunity , but it doesn't matter anyway because I couldn't get anything out of her , so it makes no difference" He looked at her and said "It makes a difference to me , I am also your supervisor remember?" as soon as the words left his mouth he regretted it "I'm sorry , I just worry that's all"

But neither of them was prepared for what was to come.

Sitting in the break room Marion thought to herself "I'll just rest my head for a second" and she lay her head on the table. "You ok?" asked Catherine , Marion looked up "Yeah just a little under the weather that's all"

Greg stuck his head round the corner " oh hey guys…uh Marion there is a Doctor Morrison here to see you? He said that it's personal"

"Oh ok… be there in a second" she replied and excused herself , Catherine started to wonder , he had been her Doctor when she'd had Lynsey , she thought to herself "cant be!… no way!"

So looking out the door , sure enough she recognised the Dr and saw him give Marion an envelope.

Just then the Dr looked round "Oh hi Catherine… and Marion don't forget to make your next appointment…. I'll see you later"

Marion looked at Catherine "I gotta go…" Catherine laughed "Oh no you don't! you're not getting away that easy… are you?…" she asked awkwardly. Caught out Marion couldn't deny it "Can we talk elsewhere?" and they went back to the break room. First thing Catherine asked was "Does Grissom know yet?"

"Not yet… the only other person who knows is Warrick … I had no choice I threw up in front of him! But I will tell him tonight" Catherine sat back and said "That's all we need… another Grissom!" and laughed , it was at this point Grissom walked in "What's going on? What did I miss?" he said. Marion replied "oh nothing…I'll see you tonight" and she kissed him goodbye and left for his apartment.

When she got there she set about making something for their dinner and sat down to open the envelope that the Doctor had given her.

It was her first ultrasound picture , she smiled and ran her hand over it disappearing into a little blissful bubble…totally oblivious.

By now Grissom was on his way home thinking to himself that something just wasn't quite right.

Marion was still dreaming when all she heard was "BITCH!!" she spun round to see a young man standing…

"Didn't think you'd see me here did ya!!" he drew back his hand and knocked her half way across the room.

Still dazed she said stammered "Craig? Please… don't do this!?" with an evil smirk he sneered "he's gonna pay…and he'll suffer … he's gonna live… without you!!" backed up against the wall she cried out "please don't…"

She looked and saw a glint of metal , he pressed the gun into her side and growled "Night-night!!" then she heard a loud crack and then…nothing.

Grissom pulled up outside his apartment where he was met by Brass…

"Jim? What are you…" he stopped when he saw the look on his friends face "Gil…please…stay here" he didn't have to say anymore.

Like a man possessed he ran inside and that's when he saw her … barely breathing , he knelt beside her and took her in his arms and screamed at everyone "GET OUT!!"

She looked up at him fighting for her breath "I'm …sorry…I …left " and she pushed something into his hand ,

He looked at her and whispered "You didn't "… but it was too late … she was gone…

By this time the coroner had come for her and Brass had to hold him back "Gil… you have to stay here…for now"

And he sank to the floor , totally defeated.

Brass was still holding his friend , everyone else had gone except for the arrival of Nick , Warrick and Greg …who just didn't know what to say.

Brass motioned them away from Grissom for now.

He looked at the picture in his hand …it was Marion's ultrasound picture and on the back she had written "Happy birthday!!! Love Marion xx"

Grissom walked into the coroners room where she was laying…

"Gil… I'm so …sorry" said Doc

"Just give me a minute " he said and Doc backed away

He put his mothers wedding ring on the chain around her neck that he had given her saying "Thank you " and walked out.

By now Mason was in custody having handed himself in telling people he had done what he came to do and didn't care what happened now.

Brass was interviewing him when Grissom came in.

Craig smiled and said "Well… hello Daddy…" and that sent Grissom over the edge

He lunged across at Craig grabbing him by the throat and lifting him an inch off the floor , Mason kicked and struggled , While Brass and two others struggled to haul Grissom off him "GODDAMN IT Gil …let him go!!!"

eventually he let him go and dropped mason to the floor Kicking him as he left.

Outside Brass got a hold of his friend "What the hell were you thinking!!?"

"She was pregnant Jim! He stole that from me!! I was having a family!!!" he growled

"I know but…" Brass never got to finish

Grissom looked at him , Brass had never seen that look before "you protect a family don't you? He growled

Jim was unnerved "of course you do"

"with everything you have…and with what you didn't want to know you had" he said

Dreading to ask , Jim said "What's that?"

Grissom looked his friend in the eye " a trace of evil…" then he turned and walked away….