



## Chapter Twenty-One

Leaving the compound had been necessary, Wanda hadn't trusted herself to stay there as she had found out how many secrets the others had been keeping from her. She was angry that none of them had thought she could handle the truth. These last couple of months had been a rollercoaster of emotions and events there was no denying that. The things that Wanda was sure of though was the fact that her and Y/N were meant to have met one another and that the feelings between them were undeniable.

Wanda had opened a portal and when she had stepped through the otherside, she had found herself in a remote woodland. As she was walking for a short time she had come across a cabin, it appeared to have been awhile since it was occupied, so Wanda figured for now it would be safe enough for her to stay there a short while.

Sitting in the centre of the main room of the cabin, Wanda used her magic to summon a number of candles, they spread out in a circle around her. The Darkhold floated in front of her, and as she looked to it, Wanda allowed the Scarlet Witch to come through. The air shimmered around her and as it focused again she was the Scarlet Witch, the crown rested on her brow.

Lifting her hand, Wanda swiped her fingers through the air and the Darkhold fell open, the pages displaying numerous spells to her. She studied each of them, allowing the power and the chaos to flow into her. Wanda was done with playing by the rules, done with having to ignore the way her magic called to her to embrace the full scope of her powers.

If becoming the Scarlet Witch would allow her to find Y/N then Wanda was willing to take the risk of using the Darkhold more than she ever had previously. She knew Stephen Strange would condone the use of it and it was likely he and Wong would sense the shift in the mystic balance but Wanda would deal with that if she had to.

Thinking about a shift in the mystic balance Wanda noticed something that seemed to be nudging at the very edge of her own magical presence. It was weak though and Wanda would have likely missed it had she not been thinking about the person it belonged to.

"Y/N..." Wanda whispered softly as she immediately sent out her own magic to try and lock onto Y/N's desperate attempt to break through to her.

Just as Wanda was about to connect with it, the small slither of Y/N's magic disappeared. It hadn't been strong enough to be able to push through the protective spells that Wanda had cast around her own mind. The sense of it though was all that Wanda needed, it let her know that Y/N was alive and that there was time for her to find her.

Dreamwalking, it had been the way Wanda had seen Y/N that night, entering her dream so they could talk without anyone else knowing. The Darkhold spoke of two versions of this, the second one though was something Wanda didn't fully understand, it spoke of inhabiting another version of yourself. For now she ignored it and focused on drawing the ruins in the air for the first version, she would find Y/N that way and then whoever had taken her would regret their actions when the Scarlet Witch descended on them.

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Y/N's dream had brought her back to the lake of the compound, it was at least a happier place to be than the cell she was currently lying asleep in. Sitting on the pebbled shore of the lake, Y/N held a pebble in her hand, turning it over as she sat waiting there. Honestly she had no idea if this would work and it was likely that she would never see Wanda or any of the others again.

The conversation with her brother had ripped her apart, seeing the way he had become so brainwashed and unreasonable. It was what had happened to their father and led to his death, she was terrified that the same was going to happen to Alex. If only she had seen the signs sooner, spent more time at home rather than working, maybe things would have been different.

"Y/N..." Wanda spoke softly as she appeared on the shoreline.

Dropping the pebble, Y/N scrambled to her feet and looked round. Her heart ached with relief and hope as her eyes settled on Wanda, though the outfit she was wearing was something that Y/N had never seen before. She looked like a goddess, a crown sat upon her brow and there was something different in the way Wanda held herself, it was an unquestionable confidence, undeniable power.

It didn't stop Y/N from rushing forward though, and throwing her arms around Wanda. She was here, she had come even after all the horrible things Y/N had said and done to her. Wanda's arms wrapped around Y/N, drawing her in close, relieved to have found her here and for her to appear to be okay.

"Are you hurt at all?" Wanda asked after a few peaceful moments of holding Y/N.

"No not really, a bit roughed up but nothing more than some bruises and cuts right now" Y/N replied as she made herself step back so she could look at Wanda.

Anger flashed in Wanda's eyes, the fact that they had still laid hands on Y/N like that was something that upset her. Each of them would pay for it though, Wanda, well the Scarlet Witch would ensure that.

"Do you have any idea where you are?" Wanda asked gently, as she reached out and held Y/N's hand in hers.

"They kept a hood over my head and used some sort of drug to paralyze me, but I figured the drive couldn't have been more than a couple of hours from the compound. So wherever they've taken me it's either still within the state of New York or just over the state line" Y/N explained, "Wanda it was all a lie though. My brother he wasn't taken, he... he planned all of this and I don't know what's going to happen but he's trying to finish my father's work. It seems to need me though and my powers for it to work."

Having also been a victim of Von Strucker's experiments, Wanda knew that whatever it was that Y/N's brother was planning, if it involved his father's research it wouldn't be anything good. Which meant time was of the essence, she needed to get to Y/N and get her out of there before this new experiment happened.

"Is your brother where you are now?" Wanda tilted her head slightly as she looked at Y/N.

"Yeah he came to the cell that they're keeping me in. I think there is also a large number of Hydra agents here as well. I don't think this is a small scale cell, it's likely the main one here in the states. Wanda I need you to promise me you won't hurt him though, this, this isn't who he is not really. He needs help" Y/N replied sadly, the last thing she wanted was to lose another family member because of Hydra.

"I won't hurt him Y/N but I may need to use him so that I can get to you" Wanda said her thumb brushing gently against the back of Y/N's hand, "If he tries to stop me though or puts you in danger, I will do whatever I need to stop him, to stop all of them."

Y/N nodded slightly, she understood that Wanda had just as much hate for Hydra as she did.

"I'm sorry for the things I said to you Wanda. I shouldn't have been like that, I know you were just trying to help me..." Y/N held back tears as she stood there with Wanda.

Wanda stepped closer and pressed a soft kiss to Y/N's forehead.

"You don't need to apologise Y/N, we should have handled things better. I understand what it's like wanting to protect your family and I should have helped you with that" Wanda replied, "I will do whatever I can to get to you Y/N."

Y/N smiled softly at Wanda.

"Might not be the right time to ask this, but maybe when this is all over, would you let me take you on a date?" Y/N asked with a slight laugh at how poorly timed it was to be thinking about this.

Wanda smiled widely back at Y/N.

"You're right, a little odd timing but yes of course I would let you Y/N" Wanda nodded.

"Okay well it's a promise then, I'll take you on the best date of all of this" Y/N said as her eyes met Wanda's.

"I'll hold you to that promise" Wanda said with happiness in her eyes.

Y/N leaned in and brought her lips to Wanda's, kissing her softly.

"Wanda, there was something you were going to say to me and I wanted to say it first" Y/N said as her forehead rested against hers, "I didn't think when I came to work with the Avengers that this would happen, that I would meet someone and find myself so drawn to them. But I did and I know I tried to resist it and push you away, it was foolish and I was just trying to make excuse to keep my heart closed off."

Y/N felt a strange tugging sensation as she spoke, but tried to ignore it.

"The thing is, I don't want to lie to myself anymore or to you. Wanda I am in love."

Y/N let out a cry of pain as the tugging sensation increased, bringing her down to her knees.

"Y/N!" Wanda's voice filled with panic as she tried to grab hold of her, but as she reached out, Y/N vanished from the shore of the lake, the last thing Wanda saw was the panic in Y/N's eyes.

Wanda was thrown from Y/N's mind and when she opened her eyes she found herself back in the cabin. The candles around her had been extinguished as the connection between them had been broken.

"No no no!" Wanda shook her head as she raged at the way that Y/N had been ripped away.

She immediately reached out to the Darkhold again and willed it to show her the spell she needed to do what she had to next. It would be the one way to immediately know where Y/N had taken and she didn't care if it let Hydra know that she was coming. It would be the Scarlet Witch coming for them now, not Wanda.