



Chapter Twenty-Six

Bucky had taken the device that Bruce and Tony had made from Bruce the moment the fighting had broken out. Bruce has gone Hulk mode and there was no way he was going to be able to prep and get the device where it needed to be whilst he was fighting as Hulk. So it had ended up in Bucky's arms as Sam and tossed it to him.

The instructions that Bruce had run through with them both whilst they had been breaking into the facility had seemed pretty simple. Turn the switches to the left and then press the button on the side, but the key part was the device had to be in range of the machine otherwise it wouldn't make the connection and reverse whatever science nonsense was going on. Bucky had admittedly switched off when Tony and Bruce had gone into all the technical talk.

Reaching the machine, that would have been simple if it wasn't for the outright carnage that had broken out. The building was half collapsed from the entrance Wanda had made into it and now with the Avengers coming in, the fighting was escalating. A fire had started at some point and was now snaking its way through the facility.

It forced Bucky to go up, there was no way he could clear the floor of the facility with the fallen debris and various fights that were happening. So he used his vibranium arm to pull himself up onto some kind of walkway, that was hanging across the warehouse, it was clearly meant to be there as some sort of viewing platform so that Hydra could watch their machine.

As he hauled himself up onto it, Bucky glanced around, thankfully it looked like any Hydra agents that had been up here had been cleared out. He did however notice one person half collapsed against the railings, tilting his head he realised who it was from the photos that had been shown back at the compound to everyone before leaving. It was Alex Von Strucker and from the looks of things he had taken quite a beating.

"That'll teach you to pick a fight with an ancient chaos magic witch" Bucky said as he stepped over Von Strucker.

The sound of footsteps on the stairs had Bucky drop down into a crouch, drawing his gun ready to take out any agents that might be attempting to come to their bosses aid. A few seconds slipped by and then Bucky felt a sense of relief when he saw that it was Wanda and she had Y/N with her. At least something good had happened, since this plan was so far a total nightmare.

Bucky hoped though that Wanda wasn't going to turn on him, he knew that things must have gone bad when Strange and the others had confronted her outside, otherwise things wouldn't be how they were right now.

"Don't take it personally Wanda, but I gotta ask, we good?" Bucky called out to her, his gun still aimed, he wasn't going to take the risk of being unarmed just yet.

Wanda stopped a good few steps away from where Bucky was, she let Y/N grip onto the railing of the walkway to hold herself up. Y/N was struggling, Wanda could see it from the way her body was shaking from exhaustion, she needed to get Y/N somewhere safe and soon.

"We're good" Wanda nodded at Bucky, "Y/N is fading and we need to get her out of here and somewhere that can help her."

"Yeah the getting out of here part is going to be tricky" Bucky frowned deeply as he looked around at the growing flames and falling debris, the entire building was becoming a death trap and right in the centre of it that swirling mass of reality warping energy was getting out of control as it lashed out grabbing more Hydra agents.

"What's that?" Wanda asked taking a couple of steps toward Bucky, she glanced back to make sure Y/N was still upright, before looking back at what Bucky was holding.

"Tony and Bruce made it. It's meant to shutdown the machine. Which we need to get done quick, before that thing tries to drag us all into whatever hell is on the other side of it" Bucky explained to her as he set it down on the floor, "Can you like magic it the heck over to it or something? I don't really fancy getting closer, but the flashing red light is indicating we aren't close enough from here for it to be effective."

Y/N grunted in pain as she gripped the railing, it was taking everything she had left to keep herself stood up and to not fall into the darkness that was sweeping through her. She could just make out the conversation that Wanda was having with Bucky, but her attention was pulled away as the entire building shook with immense force.

The swirling mass of energy and stuck out and destroyed a second stabiliser on the machine. As it did a shot of energy from it went straight up into the ceiling. Y/N's eyes went wide as a large piece of concrete came crashing down towards the walkway.

"Wanda!" Y/N cried out in warning, she tried to move but her body wasn't able to move quickly.

The concrete came smashing through the walkway, cutting her off from the side that Bucky and Wanda were standing on. Alarm flashed through Wanda's eyes as she looked at the giant gap that was now between her and Y/N.

"Oh shit" Bucky cursed as he scrambled to grab the device before it went over the edge of the now split walkway, "Okay now would be a great time to do some kind of magic crap and stop this thing, Wanda!"

"I can't!" Wanda snapped at him.

"My magic is like fuel to that thing, so is Y/N's power. It's how it was possible for him to do all of this" Wanda glared at Alex who had somehow managed to crawl out of the way.

Bucky's face dropped, he had thought that all of this could have been solved by Wanda's magic. Now they needed a back up plan, but that would mean someone having to get close enough to the reality tearing hole that was now seeping outwards due to the stabilisers designed to hold it in place breaking.

"This whole place is moments away from either exploding or imploding into some fucking multiverse whirlpool! We need to figure something out, now!" Bucky shouted over the noise of the chaos around them, he hadn't checked but he damn well hoped Steve was getting the others out of there and out of range of whatever damage was about to happen.

Y/N forced her body to move, drawing on the last part of her power. She made it to the edge, where the walkway had been destroyed. Even if she had all her strength, there was no way that she would have been able to clear the distance between her side and the side that Wanda and Bucky were on.

Things were bad, really bad and Y/N realised that there was no way they would all make it out of here, not if something wasn't done in the next few minutes to contain the threat her brother had unleashed when he switched that machine on.

There was one way.

Y/N had been trained to work through high risk situations and their outcomes, looking for the one that would lead to the least casualties, when she had been at Quantico. They had been taught that sometimes it would be the hardest choice that was the only choice and in the moment they would know it was all they could do.

There was no time to second guess, to consider if there was anything else that could be done. Y/N finally understood what her instructor had meant when he'd said that you would just know, there wouldn't be any doubt, even if the choice still had a negative outcome it would be less than if you did nothing.

"Bucky give it to me!" Y/N raised her voice, pointing to the device he was holding on to.

Wanda spun around, eyes flashing red as she looked across at Y/N. Y/N could see it slowly registered on Wanda's face why she was asking for the device to be given to her. It was too late though, before she could tell Bucky not to do it, he had already launched the device over the gap to where Y/N stood.

"No! Y/N!" Wanda cried out as Y/N caught the device.

Y/N looked to Wanda as she held the device in her arms. Tears streamed down Y/N's face as she looked at the woman who her heart truly belonged to. How she wished that they could have had more time, more time to figure things out, more time to be with one another. There was so much Y/N hadn't gotten to say.

"I love you Wanda Maximo. Never forget that" Y/N told her before turning and using every last bit of strength she had to run.

Y/N didn't let herself look back, she couldn't bare it, she didn't want to see the pain in Wanda's eyes.

Wanda watched in horror as Y/N turned and ran, she ran directly toward the swirling mass of energy below them and then she jumped, the device cradled in her arms. It felt like someone had put the world into slow motion as Y/N fell. Wanda tried to move but a metal arm wrapped around her waist, holding her back so that she wouldn't get dragged in.

"Nooooo!" Wanda screamed, pure devastation in her voice as Y/N disappeared beneath the surface of the reality black hole.

Bucky braced himself, keeping a firm grip on Wanda as he anticipated some sort of explosion coming as a result of Y/N setting the device off as she fell into the swirling mass of energy.

Instead of an explosion though, there was a moment of absolute silence, as if the energy was alive and realised what had fallen into it and it stopped lashing out. Then there was a bright flash and a blinding light swept through the open space, but as fast as it appeared it then vanished as the giant mass of reality breaking energy folded back in on itself.

Wanda fell to her knees. Bucky dropped down to his as she did, gently supporting Wanda, as sobs of grief wracked her body. They both looked to where only a few moments ago the raging black hole had occupied half the space in the room, now there was nothing.

It had completely disappeared and with it so had Y/N.