



Chapter Three

After the encounter with Wanda in the office, Y/N had quickly finished up her work and gone and found one of the spare living quarters that Steve had mentioned. She hated the idea of feeling like she was hiding, but damn did she just need a break from what had been a disaster of a first day here.

Hoping that sleep would have helped, Y/N found herself unable to get any proper rest, constantly tossing and turning, the sleep she did get was hardly enough to actually make her feel any better. With a sigh of frustration, knowing there was no hope of getting any more sleep, Y/N got up and grabbed her running gear from the bag she had left on the chair on the far side of the room.

Headphones in and music blasting, Y/N made her way through the compound, it was barely five in the morning and the total lack of anyone around meant they were all clearly having no issues sleeping. Stepping out into the grounds, Y/N took a deep breath before setting out at a jog, the plus side to being here, was the fact that there were plenty of trails that wound their way through the grounds for running.

After ten minutes of running, Y/N finally felt their mind starting to clear as she focused on her breathing and the rhythm of her feet hitting the ground. Running and working out had always been her escape when she needed to destress or when she was particularly stuck on something she was investigating and needed to give her mind the chance to think without being so hyper focused.

Turning a corner, Y/N had been distracted looking out at the lake that was on her left that she collided with something that felt like a brick wall. Cursing she stumbled backwards and pulled her headphones off, thankfully managing to keep her balance and avoid falling to the ground.

"Oh crap, sorry I hadn't realised anyone else would be out running these trails so I was kind of going full pace and then yeah you just sort of appeared out of nowhere" Steve Rogers reached out to steady her.

"It's totally okay, that was on me I should have been paying attention to where I was running and not staring at the lake" Y/N shook her head, before smiling at him.

"Honestly I'm used to being the only early riser around here, the others like their beauty sleep, I mean some of them need it more than others" Steve chuckled as he rested his hands on his waist, "You certainly wouldn't catch many of them out running for enjoyment either."

Y/N laughed slightly, it reminded her of her team back at the Bureau none of them had been able to understand why Y/N enjoyed running. They had all firmly believed that the only time for running was if they needed to run toward or away from danger. There wasn't anything fun about it.

"Look I don't want to sound like a broken record, I really am here to help with Hydra and I get that most of the team probably think I'm just some annoying agent, but I just want to do my job and do it well" Y/N said as she looked at Steve who gave her a sympathetic smile.

"Yesterday probably wasn't the best introduction to the team and I apologise for that. None of us think that by the way, about you being an annoying agent, we know who you are and if I'm honest between myself and Fury we picked you specifically when it was agreed this would happen" Steve explained to her as they started walking back down the trail, toward the compound.

"Oh" Y/N said a little surprised that she had been requested by them, she had just assumed that because she was available the deputy director had sent her.

"I'll call a team meeting, let's say 10am when the others are actually up and then you can give us the briefing. We can take it from there, how's that sound?" Steve offered looking over at Y/N.

"Yeah that would be great" Y/N smiled warmly, "Thank you Steve."

"No problem Monroe, I want you to feel like part of the team and not an outsider here" He replied, gently touching her shoulder.

"I appreciate it" Y/N said trying not to focus on the light touch Steve's hand on her shoulder.

"Great, I'll catch you in a bit then" Steve's words were slightly hurried as he quickly pulled his hand away realising that he had left his hand there for a few seconds longer than he should have.

Y/N stood there and watched as Steve jogged back into the compound. For a bunch of people who had saved the world countless times, they definitely all seemed to struggle with normal human interaction.

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Wanda had been planning to try and talk to Y/N again, she felt slightly guilty about the way she had pushed Y/N's buttons last night and planned to try to apologise for it, that was until she saw Y/N laughing and smiling with Steve.

Standing out on one of the balconies that ran around the edge of the compound's main building, Wanda saw Y/N and Steve, it looked like they had been out running through the grounds together. She frowned slightly seeing the way that Y/N was happily chatting with Steve, she didn't display any of the hesitant or doubt around him, that she had done with her yesterday.

A pang of jealousy ran through Wanda, it was becoming clear that Y/N didn't have an issue with the members of the teams whose 'powers' she didn't deem as being a threat. There also seemed to be a moment between Y/N and Steve where he had touched her shoulder. This was ridiculous, Wanda shook her head, she had no reason to be jealous or to care about who Y/N was talking with.

It shouldn't shock her that Y/N would be interested in Steve, he was Captain America, the golden boy with muscles for days and on top of that he was actually a good guy. Sighing, Wanda turned to head back inside, as she did Natasha stepped out onto the balcony holding two cups of coffee.

"Whoever thought it was a good idea to do shots last night, needs to buy me some advil" Nat complained as she passed one of the coffee cups to Wanda, before sitting down on one of the benches.

"You realise that it was you and Yelena who decided vodka shots were required, right?" Wanda laughed as she looked over at her very hungover best friend.

"Okay well then Yelena is the one who owes me some advil for encouraging me" Nat grinned before drinking some of her coffee, "Also Yelena might have mentioned a little conversation you had with her yesterday in the kitchen...."

Wanda rolled her eyes as she walked over and sat down beside Nat. Of course Yelena and the combination of alcohol would have led to her spilling the beans to her sister before Wanda had the chance to say anything.

"So, does this mean you're moving on from the whole Vision situation?" Nat asked as she rested her coffee cup on the arm of the bench.

"There is no Vision situation, we ended things mutually, we're friends" Wanda countered.

Nat arched a brow at Wanda.

"Pretty sure I laid on your bathroom floor with you for over a whole night Wanda, a er it happened. Mutual or not that was your first love" Nat said gently, "All I'm saying is that I'm happy for you if you're ready to move on and well even though I'm happily taken, Agent Monroe isn't too bad looking at all"

"Well don't start celebrating too soon about me moving on. Y/N seems to be pretty much repulsed by me because I don't fit into one of her nice little files as a 'safe superhero' to be around. It's pretty much said I was more of a threat than Hydra. Besides it looks like Steve is making his move and I mean she's not going to notice me when America's Ass is flirting with her" The words tumbled out and when she finished speaking, Wanda looked back at Nat.

Nat didn't look impressed, she hated that Wanda was always having to deal with people making assumptions about her because of the powers she held. People always seemed quick to think that things they didn't understand were dangerous. Which was ridiculous, Wanda was one of the kindest and caring members of the team, people would be damned lucky to have her fighting for them.

"Want me to tell Steve to back off?" Nat asked, "I mean he'll probably forget all about Agent Monroe when he finds out who else is being dragged in to be part of this mission."

Wanda shook her head a little.

"No don't say anything to Steve. Who else is coming?" Wanda hadn't realised that so many other people were getting involved in the Hydra situation, clearly there was some doubt about the Avengers dealing with it alone.

"None other than Sharon Carter" Nat announced, "She's apparently back working for some branch of the CIA."

"They broke up forever ago though, like before Thanos and such, you can't tell me that Steve still has a thing for her?" Wanda said not fully convinced that Sharon turning up would distract Steve from Y/N.

Nat gave a small shrug.

"Look I'm just saying those two have unfinished business so don't be giving up so easily on not pursuing things with Y/N. Who by the way is completely wrong about you Wanda and once she gets to know you she'll realise how damn lucky she would be to have you on her side, okay?" Nat assured her, leaning over to hug her.

They both stayed out on the balcony enjoying their coffee and were soon joined by Yelena, Kate and Clint who were also complaining about being hungover. The blame for whose fault it was, was the debate they were in the middle of when Vision phased onto the balcony and announced that Steve was calling a team meeting in thirty minutes.

"Can we not even get one day off to be hungover" Yelena complained as they all headed back inside.

"Downside to saving the world too many times, people don't expect you to take days off" Clint joked as he ruffled up Yelena's hair, earning him a glare from the blonde assassin.

As a group they walked through to the massive conference room that was used for the team meetings to find out what was going on.