you can't save them all

asked the young woman who stood Gabriella. The man, still had

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boyish features, brown curly hair like his dad, tall and lanky. They weren't as old as they could be, the snap took those years from them. "David?" She wrapped her arms around her niece and nephew. "Aunt Freya." Maria smiled into Freya's hair. "We're so glad you're okay." Her voice was raspy and mature. She was a woman. Probably no older than her mom was when they first met.

TW[⚠] gore and death[⚠]

She stepped out and there was a group of four adults standing right

outside the center. Matteo, Gabriella and — "Oh my god. Maria?" She

She pulled back and cupped her hands on David's face and then Maria's. She looked at Gabriella. "Is everything okay? Druig walked out pretty fast."

How could she tell them that in a few days their world could be gone. No it wasn't an option. This couldn't be the end. It wouldn't. Tony and Natasha did not die in vain. "Everything will be okay. Did

you see where he went?" Freya asked. "To your old spot," Matteo pointed. "He's there most days." Freya nodded and gave them all hugs. "I'll be back soon." She said.

"Of course." Freya stepped backwards and turned to the le toward the clearing. She had to give him a reason and this time it couldn't be

for her. That wasn't enough, not anymore. She walked into the

clearing. He stood in the middle, looking up at the stars. She moved forward.

"Stay for dinner?" Gabriella asked.

"Don't come any closer." He said. She stopped short and he turned to her. "Why'd they bring you?" He asked. "Gilgamesh remembered me." She looked away, "He remembered us — thought I'd be able to convince you to help them." "Do you believe that?" He asked.

"No." She shook her head. "But they wanted me to help, I want to help." She said and looked up at him.

"Of course you do. The world's ending, that's right up your alley." He said and stood up straighter.

"Don't." He took a step forward. "Freya. I won't help. You were right,

"Druig I —"

finally be able to rest.

could be a way for you to be strong enough." She said too fast and slow all at once. Her heart sped up. "We can't just sit here and do nothing. I can't — It's not about me or you. It's about — this can't be it." She shook her head and pushed her fingers through her hair.

"Tony and Nat didn't die for nothing! They died so that they could

"But maybe if I could transfer my power into you... maybe there

you won't be able to convince me. There's nothing I can do."

live." She pointed back to the village. "I know I can't ask you on my behalf. I know where we stand but try for the solider lost in Wakanda, the Asgadians, the ones lost to the blip, for Loki and — and Tony, Natasha." She looked at him and took in a jagged breath, "Do it for the Freya you loved." He had taken several steps forward. Her shaking form was shadowed by his. She glanced at him, her mouth trembling. "I'm sorry." She whispered. "I know." He nodded. "But sorry isn't enough this time." His jaw clenched and he pushed passed her, bumping into her shoulder. She stood with her arms wrapped around herself, tears streaming down her face. Would she lose again? At least this time if she lost, she'd

deviant flew out of the trees. Her gut dropped. Anu. She landed back on the ground and ran through the trees. It would be quicker on foot, she had to get back to Gabriella and her family. The blacksmith barn was in flames. She ran passed it.

Freya felt it's claws dig into her sides. She let out a hiss.

"Freya watch out!" Sprite yelled. A deviant jumped on top of her.

"It's okay I got you!" Kingo said but Freya was faster. She clenched

There was a loud screech too similar to the one back in New Asgard

and a scream. Freya turned and pushed o the ground. She saw as a

her fists and the being exploded into nothing, all that was le was the iridescent glow of her magic. "Never mind you got you!" His eyes widened as soon as he said that. He pointed behind her and said something but she didn't hear it. She spun around and extended a sword from her hand. A long tentacle inches from her neck. Anu's figure came out from the shadows. She jumped at Freya and the two rolled toward the ground. She looked up at the Eternals who

circled her. "Go!" Freya pinned Anu down with glowing hands.

energy at her. Anu caught them and absorbed them.

"Your fight is with me Anu!" She said.

power thrusted down onto her.

this." She said.

tree.

eyes blinking fast.

was still, she was gone.

over to Anu's body and sni ed her.

back down glanced at Gabriella.

father.

fault." She said.

Her shaking hands clasped in his.

"Protect the villagers." Anu kneed Freya in the side. The beasts were

coming in from all sides. Freya flew o of Anu and threw two blasts of

"Not like the first time." Anu laughed and pushed o the ground

tentacles grew from her back and stabbed at her. Freya dodged her carefully and slashed at the tentacles with di erent weapons she could conjure with her magic. "Go!" Sersei yelled and ran villagers into the community center. Anu looked over Freya's shoulders and smiled. She jumped into the air, right for the community center. Freya grabbed her with glowing lines of energy and threw her down to the ground.

quite like you running around trying to protect these little creatures." Freya ran at Anu with her sta . She hit her shoulder, spun around, hit her in the gut and then ducked down. She slid the sta under Anu's legs and she fell to the ground with a thud. Freya li ed of the ground and raised the sta to the air. It collected energy from herself

and the world around her and then she pointed it down at Anu. The

"Is it?" She slashed two tentacles at Freya and she dodged them. "I

A deviant jumped onto Freya's back and she tumbled to the ground. The beast stomped on her and growled at her. She cast a forcefield around her body. The sound of shotguns made her head jolt up. The villagers stood around her and the deviant, all with golden eyes, all shooting at the beast. She moved to get up but the

beast slammed a claw down on her back and she let out a scream. It

Druig jumped over it flailing tail and landed in a crouch. His eyes

met Freya's, he only wore his blue tank top and pants. He grabbed

the shotgun by his feet and ran up the back of the beasts body. He

shot him in his abdomen and the beast was pushed to the side. Druig

stomped around growling and hitting villagers with its tail.

landed by Freya and picked her up. She looked around with wild eyes, Anu was no where to be found. Druig wrapped his arms around her and jumped to the side a tree, now made of glass, came crashing down. They landed in the dirt a few inches away from the glass. The deviant under it still thrashing but stuck. "Druig let them go!" Sersei ran over to the two of them. He stepped away from Freya and closer to Sersei. "Now's not the time, Sersei." He said.

Sersei grabbed onto his shoulders, "Please. I know your better than

Freya grabbed hold of Druig's hand. He looked down at her

touching him and back up at her eyes. "Please." She whispered.

"Amora is here. She'll go a er them." She said and recognition was in

his gaze. He pulled his hand out from her grip and he pulled Sersei's

hands o his shoulders. He stood there looking at both Sersei and

Freya, unmoving but thinking. He raised a hand up and his eyes

glowed in the night. The villagers were released.

"Go! Get to the river!" He ordered them. Suddenly the deviant that was under the glass pulled out from under it. It was headed straight

"Druig what's happening?" David asked. for Druig with its wild claws. She pulled him behind her and shot it with blast. It stumbled but didn't fall. Freya threw two swords at it and they stabbed into its fleshy neck. "Where'd you learn to do that?" Druig asked. "My evil sister." She said her chest heaving up and down. She didn't

have time to see his reaction. She caught a glimpse of Anu behind

him. She gasped and pulled him away. She held a dagger inches from

his back. "Can't you just die!" She shouted at Anu and charged her.

She kicked her square in the chest and Anu went flying backwards

into a tree. Her eyes glowed as she raised from the ground and flew at

her fast. She grabbed Anu by the neck and pinned her up against the

Freya heard a sharp inhale behind her and the sound of a metal

slicing, a sound she knew all too well. She looked up at Anu in front of her pushed up against the tree. Her lips curled up in a smile, "I thought you were the one who'd save them all?" She said and her blue skinned body disappeared, a glamour, a projection of herself. Freya turned slow, fearful of what she'd find behind her. Her heart dropped. Gabriella's hazel eyes glossed over by tears, her body tense, hands trembling pressed against her bloody abdomen. Anu stood behind her, a wicked smile on her lips. "Oops." She said. Freya let out a scream and a wave of her power shot out from her

chest. It pushed Anu back and Gabriella lost her balance. Freya ran

over and caught her as she fell down. She laid her down and looked

at the wound. Upper abdomen, a twisted gash, slashed all the way

through from the back to the front. Gabriella looked up at Freya, her

"You're going to be okay." Freya whispered. "I can heal you." She

put her hands over her abdomen. "I can," Gabriella's mouth bobbed,

her hands soaked in blood grabbed hold of Freya's.

"Protect Matteo, David and Maria." She rasped out. She shook her head. "No, no, I have to heal you." She said. "I can do both. I can do both, Gabriella." "Please." Gabriella said. Her quivering lips turned up in a smile. "It's okay, Freya. Protect our family." She gasped for air. "Tell them I love them." ď "I can't lose you." She brought her head close to Gabriella's. "Please I just got you back."

Gabriella put a hand to Freya's cheek. "Hermosa." She said with her

last breath. Her hand fell from Freya's cheek, her eyes lost focus. She

Freya gently closed her eyes and looked up at the wreckage. The

Sersei was in the water, fighting a deviant. Ikaris was on the ground,

Kingo and Sprite were holding on to each other. Two more crawled

village was in ruin, her village, their village. She took in a breath.

Anu's eyes opened and she looked at Freya. Her eyes widened, Freya's eyes were glowing, the winds around her and Gabriella's body picking up. The glowing iridescence, was palpable in the air. She raised up above Gabriella and put a field of energy around her.

Freya's cheeks were wet with tears and blood, her best friend's blood.

She clenched her fists in raised them to her sides, forearms facing

upwards. Freya let out a scream. They deserved to die. The deviants

and Anu. They deserved death. A blast of her power shot through the

village. The deviants were consumed by the light and exploded into

nothing. The winds died down and the village was silent. She fell

Freya let out a sob. She grabbed hold of Gabriella's hand. "No, no, no..." She shook her head. The Eternals stood and looked at her with wide eyes. Matteo ran out from behind the trees. "Gabriella!" He cried out but his voice fell flat. He noticed Freya over Gabriella's body. "No." He shook his head. "No." He ran over and cradled Gabriella's head in his

lap. "No, mi amor." Maria and David followed close behind their

"Mama?" Maria clutched onto David. The two of them stumbled

over to Gabriella. Maria's knees gave out and her father wrapped his

arms around her. "I'm so sorry." She felt hands pull her up from behind. "I'm so sorry, Matteo." She struggled against the arms. "I wasn't strong enough. I wasn't — I'm so sorry." She was turned around by the person holding her up. Druig. He was still there, he wasn't dead... yet. He was looking at her but her eyes were out of focus. She tried to turn back to look at

the Cortez family but he pulled her chin back to face him. "It's my

He shook his head. "No." He said and pulled her away from second

family she ever had. Her chosen family. The family she had let down

so many times. "Let's give them space." He said. She listened to him.

A/N

besties 🖭 😟 Are we okay? I'm not okay in writing they say kill your darlings but, it hurt. Let me know your thoughts \bigcirc

Continue reading next part \Box