



## xxxvi. Love Is Forever

Auralie and Wanda were doing Clint a favor one day, watching his kids. Usually, when Clint and Laura wanted to go out, they had Nat babysit, but Natasha was taking a well-deserved vacation, and the other most common babysitter, Peter Parker, was in the middle of an intense study session for finals. So, Ali and Wanda had gone to help their friend out.

Pietro had gone too, and they had been worried about that at first, but Pietro was actually a big hit with the children. They didn't mind that he was a ghost, and he made them laugh. Pietro stayed inside to watch over Nathaniel Pietro, his namesake, the toddler, while Wanda and Auralie took Cooper and Lila outside to play. Nathaniel had allergies, so he wanted to stay inside.

It was a beautiful day out, the sun was shining, the air was warm, and the bugs hadn't come back yet. Auralie was not a big fan of bugs, with a few exceptions, those being Scott Lang and Hope Van Dyne of course. The same went for arachnids, the exceptions being Natasha Romano and Peter Parker.

Lila and Cooper were having a very intense nerf gun war that Auralie would have joined in on if they had more than two nerf guns on hand. Since they didn't, she and Wanda were sitting together on the porch, watching the children race around the farm.

"This is so peaceful," Wanda said, a serene smile on her face.

"I know," Auralie said with a teasing grin, "what do you think? You wanna get a farm all our own?"

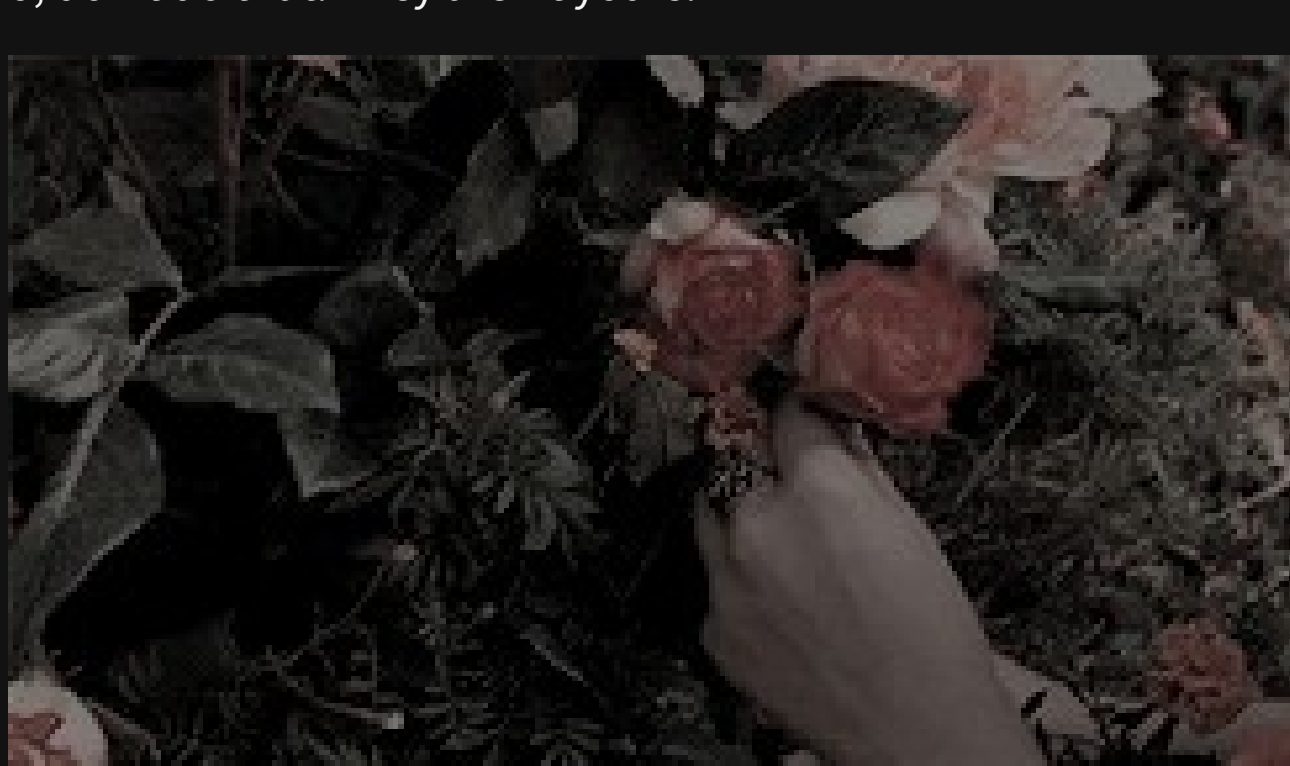
"Hell no!" Wanda laughed, "it's nice, but I like the bustle of the city, the way we're right in the center of everything, and I love being a part of the Avengers. This team is where I was meant to end up. Our apartment, with you, is where I was meant to end up."

"Agreed. Plus, we're right down the street from that great pizza place," Auralie smirked.

"And we're still very young. We married young, which is great, because I love being married to you, but we have a lot of time to find out what we want to do in the future. So let's put that on hold and live in the moment for a minute," Wanda said.

Auralie took Wanda's hand, "whatever you say, dearest." Auralie liked living in the moment. Her brain was always racing a million miles per minute, thinking of possibilities, of what she had to do to defend the world. It was nice to just take a few minutes just to be happy, no strings attached.

She looked over at a rosebush on one side of the porch with a sly grin. Reaching over, she plucked a rose from the bush. Wanda cried, "no, don't do that. They aren't yours."



Auralie smirked, "they won't miss one rose." She reached out and tucked a lock of Wanda's hair behind the witch's ear. Then she tucked the flower there as well, a er making sure there were no thorns.

"You look beautiful," Auralie said, "you always do, but....."

"You're beautiful too," Wanda replied, reaching up to gingerly touch her flower, "thank you Auralie, it's lovely, even if you did steal it."

Auralie leaned closer, "I'd steal you the world if you'd ask. I'm that in love with you."

Wanda smiled, "I don't want the world. Only you and your heart."

"You already have that," Auralie said.

The light and shadow manipulator pressed a kiss to her wife's lips. Wanda reached out, running her hands through Auralie's so blonde hair. They broke apart, smiling at each other. This never got old.

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Later, it had gotten dark out, but the kids were still playing. Pietro had put Nathaniel to bed and had come out to spend time with his sister and sister in law. Auralie, to her utter delight, had found a spare nerf gun and was now relentlessly battling against Cooper and Lila, who had teamed up to take down the Avenger.

Auralie was losing, whether on purpose or because she was laughing all the time and giving away her position, Wanda did not know. Either way, it was adorable.

Auralie, if you asked her, would not say she looked adorable. She was running around, her combat boots pounding against the grass as she looked for spare nerf darts.



Cooper and Lila loved it. Auralie was a lot of fun to play with, she always was. They called her their cousin, and she was always up to play a game, whether it was scrabble or tag. She had even tried to teach them how to play cards once, but Clint hadn't liked that. Natasha had found it amusing though.

"You're running out of darts," Cooper called, seeing Auralie's face as she realized she only had three le.

"Yeah. I have ten," Lila taunted.

"You know, I feel like you two must have paid much more attention to the nerf gun section of Clint and Nat's training than I did," Auralie laughed.

Lila rolled her eyes, "there's no nerf guns at Shield."

"Clint brought some in one time," Auralie countered.

"Of course he did," Cooper had a grin on his face as he thought of his father's silly antics. Lila was grinning too. That sounded like something Clint Barton would do.

Wanda, meanwhile, was watching Auralie play with the kids, a fond smile tugging at her lips. Pietro grinned, "you really love her."

"I do. I never expected her in my life, but I don't know what I would do without her. She makes me so happy Pietro, and I do, I love her so much," Wanda said, "I don't know what I would ever do if I lost her."

Pietro placed a ghostly hand lightly on Wanda's shoulder, "you don't have to worry about that. Life isn't forever, but love is. I'm proof of that."

"Yes," Wanda said with a brilliant smile, "that's true."

And there, with her twin, watching her wife, enjoying the cool night air, even a chaotic soul like Wanda Maximo felt perfectly at peace.

**A/N: This chapter was pure Auralanda flu because you all deserved some cute shippy stu a er muscling through pain and destruction and fighting and angst. Also, I added a couple gifs, because that was cool. Anyways, I hoped you liked it.**

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