



## vii. Open The Gates

They were all lined up on a great battlefield of Wakanda. T'Challa and Okoye were at the head of their army. Bucky, Steve, Natasha, and Auralie were lined up to the side. Bruce, who had donned the whole Hulkbuster get up, was behind them. Sam and Rhodey vigilantly guarded the skies.

a

Listening to the chants of the Wakandan army, Auralie felt hope. Together, they were all very powerful, and none of them would give up. It gave them a good chance.

a

But then she saw the army of alien creatures amassing outside of the shield. Too many of them, all with multiple arms and legs, all looking ready to tear into the Avengers. Her heart sped up, but she didn't shake. Yes, they were scary, but she couldn't let them detract from her purpose: to save the world, and keep these things far away from Wanda.

Don't worry darling Auralie thought, we'll make it through She hoped Wanda, with all of her mindreading powers, could hear her, though to be honest, the thought was more to comfort herself than anything.

Natasha, Steve, and T'Challa all approached the aliens. One had been seen fighting with Tony in New York, one was the female Wanda and Auralie had fought against. She narrowed her eyes but kept her cool. Beside her, Bucky held a huge gun and shot her a determined but concerned look. She gave him a small smile. If there was one good thing about all of this, it was that he was with them again and he was alright. She had missed him.

In a low voice, she asked, "you're able to get plums, right?"

"Yeah," Bucky replied, "I can eat plums. Also, I was put in charge of guarding the goats, but that's a long story."

Auralie smiled a bit, "if you end up coming back with us, I'll make sure we plant an entire plum tree for you."

a

Bucky smiled back before turning back to the battle, his face once again serious, "thanks, Ali."

As T'Challa spoke with the aliens, Auralie heard one of his top commanders say, "this will be the end of Wakanda."

Okoye replied, "then it will be the noblest ending in history." Auralie straightened up. She didn't quite know how they had ended up allied with Wakanda, but she was lucky that they were. T'Challa and his people were some of the bravest she had ever known. It would be an honor to fight beside them on the battlefield.

a

They then heard T'Challa bellow, "enough! Thanos will have nothing but dust and blood!"

a

"Blood," the female alien sneered in response, "don't worry, we have plenty of that."

T'Challa, Steve, and Natasha returned to their positions. Steve activated his new shields, Natasha her wrist gauntlets, and Bucky clicked the safety of his gun. Auralie's hands filled with a blazing light, her heart thrumming in time with the war cries of the Wakandan people.

That was when the alien army started trying to force its way through the barrier. Though their limbs and heads were cut off, and they died in pools of blood, they kept attempting it. Suddenly, the horrifying meaning behind the female alien's words became clear. Auralie watched in horror, eyes wide.

"They're killing themselves," Okoye whispered to T'Challa.

"If they keep doing it, they think they'll eventually get through," Auralie realized, "and when that happens, if they go around back, there's nothing between them and Wanda and Vision."

Steve nodded, then called to T'Challa, "what do we do?" This was T'Challa's country and his technology, he would know what to do with the situation.

T'Challa replied, "we open the gates." Everyone seemed surprised, but they soon realized they had no better options. T'Challa called Shuri and told her to open one small section. She followed his orders, and soon a flood of aliens was streaming in from the narrow gap.

T'Challa put on his helmet, "WAKANDA FOREVER!"

a

And at that battle cry, the army began to run.

Steve and T'Challa raced ahead, being two of the fastest on the field. The others followed suit, and Auralie was just glad Bruce now had control of the Hulkbuster. He had tripped and fallen on his face not long ago.

Sam and Rhodes attacked with all their might, screaming as they fired round after round into the enemy. The rest of them collided with the aliens, drawing weapons and tapping into powers. Auralie herself tore into them, her light destroying them.

She had something new she wanted to try, something she thought would be really badass and help her team. She lit up like a torch. It wasn't just her hands. Light radiated off all of her skin, intertwined with her hair, shone in her eyes. She had become like the sun, like a star, a shining creature in the middle of the battlefield.

Some aliens skittered away, but most were too late. She let all the light flow out of her in one big blast, vaporizing all the aliens within a few feet of her. That was around ten aliens taken down at once.

Breathing heavily, she decided that while the move was useful, she would save it. It was very draining, and if it weren't for the adrenaline, she might have passed out. It would be her Giant-Man move, so to speak.

As they all fought there, on that battlefield, for their lives and the lives of all in the world, Auralie's fear melted away. It was not like other battles. There was a sense of finality about this one, like whatever happened the outcome would be bigger and worse than most. That should have been scary, but there was something comforting because at least now, they knew what was coming. That meant there would be fewer games being played. Right?

a

**A/N: The big fight has begun and it's going to only get more badass from here. Also, guess who just got crushed by her sister and her dad in Wii Bowling. That's right me. So that's my ridiculous moment of the day, hope you all are having a good time.**

Continue reading next part