2.7 Scottie yelped as she swung her arm towards another outrider, only to have one latch its teeth on to her outstretched arm. She could almost feel Wanda's panic from the lab at the sound of Scottie screaming out in pain, but she simply shut her eyes tightly as she focused on protecting Vision and Shuri in the lab. There was a quick thud as the creature on her arm was sliced apart by the black, vibranium shield that had been gi ed to Steve for the time being. The man grabbed the girl up from the ground, holding her slightly to him as he tried to use the shields to protect them both from the creatures that had began to swarm them in overwhelming numbers. From under Steve's arm, Scottie could see that Bruce had been dogpiled by the creatures, the man frantically trying to push them o. She squirmed in Steve's protective hold, reaching out and trying to shoot one of her beams of light at the creatures but only managing to take out one of two of them, while trying to hold back the oncoming ones from Steve and herself. "There's too many of them!" Scottie's hand flew to cover her eyes as only metres away a large beam of rainbow-hued light shot down on the ground from the sky. She paused for a moment, slowly moving her arm back as she tried to focus on what the beam was with nothing but confusion on her face. She hadn't seen the man in a significantly long time, but even then, she was sure the Thor she knew had longer hair. Thor stood tall where the beam of light had once been, lightning crackling all around him as he caught the ax that had pulled all of the creatures o of her and Steve. She squinted slightly as she tried to tell herself that she was not imagining the man having a tree person and a racoon with a gun standing next to him. There were so many things that had happened since she had died and even this wasn't really one of the strangest things she had seen today. "Hahaha! You guys are so screwed now!" Scottie would have laughed at Bruce had the circumstances been any di erent, but she had returned to fighting back to back with Steve to take down the creatures that were ripping through not just their comrades but also through each other. "BRING ME THANOS!" Thor screamed from behind her, the sky almost darkening as his lightning absolved the energy in the air and focused it on the evil aliens. Scottie was definitely sure that he was not this powerful when they had fought together to stop Loki from killing all of Manhattan, but then again, she was certainly not as powerful then as she was now either. A lot had changed since 2011 for them all. "Steve," Scottie panted, noticing that they had managed to clear their small area of creatures for just a second. The man moved to stand beside her, putting his hand on her shoulder as he continued to study the battlefield beside them all. A sudden thud beside them cause them both to turn o ensively to their right, only to notice the God of Thunder standing there with his new axe cradled in his hands. "New haircut?" Steve asked, a small smirk on his face. "Notice you've copied my beard," Thor joked, pointing to his own face with a smirk. Scottie noticed the deep cuts on Thor's face, realising that the man must have also been battling elsewhere before arriving on their battlefield. Scottie jumped slightly as the tree person suddenly impaled three of the creatures from next to her, a small scream coming out of her lips in shock as she hadn't even noticed the tree standing next to them and Thor. "By the way, this is a friend of mine. Tree." "I am GROOT!" The tree snarled back, stabbing another creature with its branch like limbs. Scottie blinked in disbelief at what she was seeing, utterly amazed that this was actually happening before her. "I... I am Steve Rogers," Steve nodded back, formally introducing himself to Groot with a so smile on his face. Scottie's jaw literally dropped at this point. She was truly amazed at the fact this was happening on a literal battleground. They all turned to look at Scottie expectantly, the girl blinked in disbelief as she opened her mouth. "I am Scottie, Scottie Casey." The tree - or Groot as she guessed she now knew him by - cheered at her joining in, before taking o across the ground impaling creatures as he went. She stood there for another moment before being jolted out of her amazed state by the ground suddenly shaking underneath her. "Fall back! Fall back now!" Scottie barely had time to process T'Challa's voice as large wheels of mechanical spikes rose from the ground and stared to spin towards them all. Scottie turned on her heel, launching herself away from the wheels without a moment of hesitation. She was not going to die at the hands of a stupid piece of metal. She dri ed naturally over towards where Natasha and Okoye were

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awaiting the feeling of her entire body being shredded to pieces before everyone else's eyes on the battlefield. Just as she felt Natasha's hand grab on to her own in comfort, Scottie suddenly realised that they hadn't been shredded yet. Looking up at the same time as Natasha and Okoye, Scottie broke out in a massive grin as her eyes met the familiar ones of Wanda staring back at her. Wanda turned her head back around, moving her fingers and allowing the metal contraption she was holding to fly back towards the aliens that they had been fighting for almost an hour now. Natasha sent Scottie a smug smile at Wanda's e orts, while Okoye looked between everyone with another displeased look at the current development. She spun her spear in her hand before turning

to face Natasha and Scottie with nothing but an indignant tone in her

As Scottie and Wanda quickly shared a hug, their moment was

broken by the news of Vision falling out the lab a er being attacked.

Scottie spun frantically to see the android disappear into a thick set

"On my way!" Wanda yelled back, taking a step back from Scottie as

she prepared to launch herself into the sky to save her friend. Just as

she went to move, a thick stick came from nowhere and smacked her

across the face, causing her to collapse down on to the dirty trench

voice.

of dense trees.

"Somebody get to Vision!"

"Why was she up there all this time?"

running, joining the duo on Natasha's side. The women both had

Scottie didn't know what else to do other than coil in on herself,

wheels suddenly changed its path towards them.

their weapons out - Natasha with her escrima sticks and Okoye with

her augmented spear - but that did little for the trio when one of the

that the metal machine had made. "He'll die alone. As will you," Proxima Midnight told the red head, snarling down at her as she prepared to strike the girl. Just as she raised her sta, she was interupted. "She's notalone. Natasha, Okoye and Scottie stood around the woman as they protected Wanda just how she had protected them only minutes before. Scottie was almost snarling at the woman, her hands emitting a bright orange glow from the heat that her anger had built up to be used.

The three engaged in hand-to-hand combat with the alien, and while

Natasha and Okoye proved to be strong contenders for the woman,

Scottie certainly was not. A hard hit to the head had the blonde girl

inhuman strength had le her struggling to pull herself together and

A er managing to get Natasha and Okoye out of the way, Proxima

went to take a final blow at Scottie before her knife was stopped mere

centimetres from the girl's neck. A swirling pool of red mist covered

Scottie slowly sat up, noticing the Wanda was doing the same from

her for a brief second, before her body was thrown upwards and

directly into the path of one of the spinning spiked machines.

crumpling to the ground, while a swi blow to the stomach with

"Step away from my girlfriend, you bitch."

stand up.

only hours before.

beside her. Breathing deeply, she turned to see Natasha slowly trying to wipe think blue blood from her face. The older woman looked at the two younger ones before pulling a slight face at the death they just witnessed, and at the blood on her skin. "That was really gross." "Everyone, on my position. We have incoming." Scottie rushed through the trees, noticing that everyone else was

slightly behind her. She slowed to a halt as she caught up to Steve,

her eyes frantically searching the area around them as she noticed

Wanda crouching beside Vision. The android had another gapping

hole in his chest - just like he had when they had all been reunited

Scottie instantly felt the stone light up as she moved closer to the

android, everyone's eyes instantly noticing the connection. Just as

they caught on to what Scottie had meant on the battlefield earlier,

"Scottie..." Vision breathed out, his eyes barely managing to stay

open as he felt the girl's presence. She paused for a moment before

crouching down, her hand reaching out to touch the stone that lay in

Wanda's eyes filled with sudden tears as she also made the

connection to the stone and Scottie.

the middle of his forehead.

could hear from behind them.

"What the hell?"

forehead.

The team all watched in silence as they saw the gap between her hand and the stone crackle with yellow energy - very similar to that of the light beams that o en came from Scottie when she used her powers. Vision's ragged breathing turned into a more casual e ort, while the stone seemed to just glow brighter in Scottie's presence. Stepping back from Vision, Wanda looked up at Scottie to notice the slight yellow tint to her usually blue eyes. There was a moment of confusion from all the team before Scottie looked between Wanda and Vision, her hearing picking up Natasha just in time to hear the

woman let out a curse of disbelief at whatever the rest of the team

Scottie stood up, turning slowly to see the edge of a blue cloud

that this was the man they were all trying to stop.

forming just along the forest floor form them all. She didn't need to

hear Bruce turning to Steve and confirming it was Thanos to know

His purple skin was just how she imagined it, and she knew from one

look at the man that he could easily snap her in half without barely

breaking a sweat. He turned slowly to face the team, a sick smile on

There was something that flickered in his eyes as he moved his gaze

up to notice where Scottie was standing protectively in front of

Wanda and Vision, her hands slightly glowing as she stood her

ground towards the man who had taken Tony away from her.

Scottie was truly terrified. In all of her life she had never faced

someone that she truly believed might be unstoppable until now. Yes,

she had been terrified of Ultron and had fled before the team battled

the robot but this wasn't her fault this time. This was something that

had been playing out since her very first battle back at the original

his face as his eyes focused in on the stone that rested on Vision's

Stark Tower in 2011. Almost ten years had lead to this moment, and she knew that there would be no coming back from whatever happened in the next few minutes. "Eyes up. Stay sharp." Steve's voice barely reached her ears as all she was currently hearing was the thumping of her own heart. She needed to stop Thanos before he touched a single hair on Wanda's head or gained the last infinity stone. She needed this to be over. Scottie watched helplessly as the team began to all move towards Thanos, everyone hoping they would somehow manage to hold the man back from reaching the stone. Bruce was first to reach the Titan,

lunging with his heavy metal fist at the man. His e ort was useless, as

Titan and being buried in the cli face that Vision had previously fell

contact before being flung to the side in a burst of purple energy from

winced as his body hit the ground with a heavy smack, but her eyes

travelled to where T'Challa had just been punched in the throat and

She almost had hope that Sam would be able to pause the Titan for a

moment, but his wings were rendered incapable almost straight

away and sent him skidding by the Titan in an uncontrolled flight

Scottie could almost hear Wanda breathe out a refusal from behind

her as Vision told her that the final option was now their only option.

Wanda had to destroy the stone; and with it Vision and potentially

"We can't stop him, Wanda, but you can," Scottie told the girl, not

one twist of Thanon's wrist had him tumbling through the purple

Steve tried his shot next, running towards but not even making

the gauntlet that Thanos was currently wearing. Scottie almost

down behind the man.

slammed on the ground.

"Wanda. It's time."

her best friend. "It's not fair."

just... feel you."

fully scratch.

relaxed.

path.

Scottie.

making eye contact as she continued to watch Thanos go through the rest of her friends to try and reach the android behind her. She knew her turn against the man was coming any second, but she needed Wanda to know that whatever happened as a result of her destroying the stone, she was forgiven already. "Look at me. You have the power to destroy the stone," Vision continued to plead. "You must do it. Wanda, please. We. Are. Out of time." "I can't." "Yes, you can. You can. If he gets the stone, half the universe dies."

Scottie felt her heart almost break as she heard Wanda whimpering to

"It shouldn't be you, but it is. It's all right. You could never hurt me. I

Almost instantly, Scottie was able to tell that Wanda's energy had

began to beam towards the Mind Stone. It was as if every nerve in her

body was being set on fire, like an itch she just would never be able to

Scottie opened her mouth slightly from the feeling, surprised at how

good it felt. She had expected to feel like she was being torn apart,

but rather she just felt like she was becoming calmer and more

Her eyes barely were able to focus on Rhodey's armour being crushed around him by the mad titan, Okoye being thrown aside and Natasha being wrapped in what appeared to be vines from the forest floor around them. She just managed to make out Groot's vines that he grew being snapped in half by Thanos without a second thought. Scottie only focused on Wanda's eyes as she looked back over her shoulder to meet them for a second. The girl was crying heavily, but Scottie could only gently smile back as she felt her body unwind from her fighting stance.

Her eyes turned back around to see Steve try again to hold Thanos

let the man use the powers of the stones again. For a very brief

moment, Scottie had some hope by the amused look on Thanos'

slam his forehead into Steve and knocking the man out cold.

back, his hands wrapped tightly around the gauntlet as he refused to

face. That hope quickly vanished as Thanos brought his head down to

Scottie tried to raise her hand to push a stream of energy towards the man, but he simply raised his hand and slapped the blonde girl down to his feet. Looking down at her in disgust, he stepped over her body to now face Wanda and Vision with no-one else between them. Hearing Scottie hit the ground, Wanda turned and swung her le hand around from where it was trying to destroy the stone on Vision's head and aimed it directly at Thanos. Scottie felt herself becoming more and more weak as the stone began to crack in Vision's head. She looked up slowly, noticing how Wanda's mouth seemed to be

The only remaining Casey smiled gently, knowing that this was the

and showing Wanda the leather band on her arm that matched the

end of their story for her. She nodded encouragingly, raising her hand

yelling out her name in panic.

girls.

"It's okay, I love you, it's alright," Scottie said back with the last of her energy. At Scottie's approval, Wanda pushed her energy harder for just one more second until the stone finally spilt. Wanda and Thanos both stumbled back as the stone emitted a large wave of pure energy from Vision's head, the android collapsing on the ground beside Wanda dead. Continue reading next part \Box