Chapter 28: We got your back, Y/n Y/n's POV I just le Nat's room, I would have preferred to stay there, especially since I was comfortable in her arms. Unfortunately I have something else more important to do. I hope she's not too mad at me... "Y/n?" asked Alexis suddenly. "Yes?" I replied, in my thoughts. "What are you thinking about?" "Hmm?" "Are you thinking about Agent Romano?" he then asked. I looked into his eyes and saw apprehension but also a little anger. "Why would you want me to think about her?" I then asked him. Of course I think about her, how can he not want me to think about her. "I don't know, you guys used to spend a lot of time together before, then she always looks at you hard and she always glares at me. And I've noticed that you look for her a lot too. If you'd rather spend your time with her, do it," he reproached me. I then laughed. "Are you jealous?" I then teased him by giving him a little elbow. He then looked at me and I gave him a playful look while raising my eyebrows. He smiled weakly and looked away. "Stop it. I'm serious." "So am I Alex. You know very well there is nothing between Agent Romano and me. There's barely a professional relationship. So a personal one? You can dream on. Why would I want to spend time with her?" Because she's the first person to make me feel confident here, she's the first one to get mad at those who are mean to me, she's the first one to protect me, she's the first one to reassure me and calm me down a er my nightmares, she's the first one to know about my powers yet she didn't tell anyone, she's the first one to help me control them, she's the first one to encourage me to succeed, she's the first one to get me out of my state when I can't control my power, she's the first one to take care of me when I need it, she's the first one I think of when I'm not well, she's the first one I think of when I'm well, she's my first kiss. If I was dying on my knees she would be the first person to rescue me, if she was drowning in the sea I would give her my lungs so she could breathe. She just has first place in my heart, but why would I want to spend time with her huh? "You're right. I've been a fool. Do you want to go practice and then spend the day together?" "Do you have any free time today?" I asked him. "Yes, but I'll just have to go away for a little hour while we're out, it won't take long." "Okay, no worries. I have to stop by and see Fury before we go to training, I hope he sends me on a mission soon." "Are you bored with me here? haha." "No not at all, you're silly. But I miss the action, you know that." "I know, I'm teasing you, go ahead I'll wait for you in the gym." he smiles at me, I smile at him, wink at me then leave. I stop smiling immediately and I go to Fury's o ice. When I arrive in front of it I knock, two knocks, then three and one last one. It's a kind of code, it's to warn him that it's me and that I have some news about the mission he gave me a month ago. "Agent Ivanov come in." I hear through the door. I entered the room and the door locked. Fury switched on the noise protectors. "I was expecting you last night," he said. He doesn't look happy. I sneak a glance at Agent Hill standing next to him. Both of them are wondering. "I know sir, I'm sorry I couldn't make it." "Is there an explanation?" he asked me. "I just forgot sir, I went to eat and then went to bed." I'd rather not tell him the truth, or they'll worry for nothing. Both of them looked at me suspiciously before accepting my answer. "Anything new?" "Yes sir." At the sight of my serious look, he repositioned himself in his chair and waited for me to continue. "This is much more serious than we thought. Good job agent Ivanov, rest this a ernoon. I will send you on a mission with Agent Peyton tomorrow. Be ready." he told me knowingly. "I will be sir." "Watch your backs, be discreet. I'll debrief you tonight, don't forget this time." "Yes sir, I'll tell Agent Peyton." "You may leave, thank you Agent Ivanov." I then le the room and headed for the gym. On the way I passed Clint and Nat who walked in the opposite direction of me. I kept my eyes straight, and looked ahead. Nat's POV A few minutes a er Y/n le, Clint knocked on my door. I foolishly hoped it would be Y/n. "Fury wants to see us, he wants to talk to us about our mission tomorrow," Clint informed me. I then followed him towards the director's o ice. On the way we passed Y/n who must have been in the director's o ice a few minutes before. Her look is so serious, Clint wanted to greet her but in front of her dark and serious air we didn't dare to say a word. What had happened? Wasn't she with Agent Peyton? "What happened between you? Why were you still in her room this morning? If it wasn't for Jarvis, I never would have found you," Clint then asked me. "Nothing happened, I just fell asleep a er I dropped her o ," I replied briefly. We met in front of Fury's o ice. Clint knocked and we entered. The serious looks on Fury and Maria's faces were immediately noticeable. "You wanted to see us sir?" asked Clint. "Yes, this will be quick, no need to sit down." We then stood in front of the two figures and waited. What happened with Y/n? "You will not be going on a mission tomorrow, but I want you to be ready to have to leave at a moment's notice. I also want you to tell the other avengers to be ready to move in at a moment's notice, you will notify them tomorrow morning a er Agent Peyton and Agent Ivanov leave. Do not discuss this with anyone else, nor do you discuss it with each other. Is that clear?" Agent Peyton and Agent Ivanov? They're both going on a mission? Where? Why? "Sir, with all due respect, may I ask why?" asked Clint. "No, you may not." replied Fury coldly. "Well? Is that clear?"

"Do you have any idea what's going on?" asked Clint. "No, but it's very suspicious." "I hope it has nothing to do with Y/n." he said. Personally I think it has everything to do with Y/n but I don't see why. Is it because they're only going on a two-person mission for the first time? But in that case, no need to ask everyone to be ready, unless the mission is very dangerous. In this case, he would not have asked two beginners to go, not alone. We then passed the gym and saw Agent Peyton and Y/n practicing hand-to-hand combat. What the hell is that? Agent Peyton is winning and Y/n is losing. It doesn't make sense. In fact, she just lost and he helped her up, then congratulated her. Did he really just tell her that she has improved? "Is it just me or is something wrong?" asked Clint skeptically.

"But didn't he just say she got better?" he asked me. He turned to me. "Why is she pretending to suck? Then she does it well, if we didn't know her skills we would never have seen that she was doing it on

"I wonder the same things you do Clint." Y/n then turned around, as soon as Agent Peyton's back was turned and she dipped her gaze into mine. She nodded slowly from right to le and then winked before

"Let's go Clint, let's let them practice." I then le and Clint then

"Yes sir." Simultaneously, the answer was given.

"You are dismissed."

"No, it's not you."

"I'm not sure."

purpose."

"Do you think like me that she -"

"Lost on purpose?" yes." I cut him o .

returning her attention to the agent with her.

"What the hell was that??"

anything. I trust them.

answer when Bruce cut me o.

Ouch

nothing.

"Then she really has lost," said Clint doubtfully.

Clint and I then le, confused.

followed me. My brain then kicked into gear and of all the hypotheses it managed to form, none of them appealed to me. I don't understand anything anymore. All I hope is that she is not in danger and that everything will be fine for her tomorrow. I am seriously starting to doubt this agent Peyton. What is Y/n playing at? Y/n's POV Who knew that losing was so tiring? Not me anyway, but it is. Small explanation, a er the meeting with Fury, I went to train with Alexis, I told him about our mission tomorrow and as usual we started to train. Well, him more than me. I can't show him what I'm really capable of, order of the director. So for the last month I've been pretending to be a novice and sometimes I put a little more e ort to show that I'm improving. Of course it makes me not train at all, but that's okay. I would do anything for the success of my mission.

Obviously Clint and Nat noticed right away, I hope they don't say

A er the workout, I went to shower and then joined the other

"Oh hi kid," Tony greeted me, "it's been a long time, have you recovered from yesterday?" Tony asked, concerned. I was about to

"It sure must be tiring to do nothing but flirt with Agent Peyton, I

avengers in the dining room to have my lunch.

guess that's not all you did. You didn't waste your time. Poor Agent Peyton." I am currently shocked by what he just said and I'm not sure I understand. "I'm not sure I follow you Bruce." I then say. "Haha he's dumb don't pay attention to him!" Tony tried to distract, "No no I want to know." The room fell silent, all eyes were on Bruce and me. Everyone was there, even Thor, and it looked like no one dared to breathe. Bruce chuckled. "Don't play innocent, you're far from it," he said. "What do you mean?" "Bruce..." warned Steve as he stood up. But Banner decided to ignore him.

"We all know what you like to do is hit on shield agents and either kill them or throw them away like dirt once they fall under your spell."

"Haha I knew that was true, don't act surprised. Everyone knows you don't have a heart so you play with other people's hearts, right Nat?"

"That's enough, Bruce!" said Tony, followed by Steve and Thor.

I just looked Nat in the eyes, waiting for a reaction. But she said

"See? I was right, even Natasha thinks so. You managed to lose the one person who would have given her life for you, she finally sees your true nature, a heartless monster, you-" Tony punched Bruce in

"Tony!" shouted Steve. He then held him back, preventing him from

I'm caught o guard, I don't know what to say.

added Bruce at my silence.

the face, he fell and lost his glasses.

delivering another blow to the downed scientist. I didn't pay attention to the scene, keeping my eyes on Nat. I finally looked down, her gaze was far too cold and she didn't deny it. I think Bruce is finally right, my heart just broke, so I don't have a heart anymore. I laughed sarcastically, raised my glossy eyes to the sky and le. Only love can hurt like this. Nat's POV I'm so stupid, I just wanted to see how she would react to my nonreaction and to see her beating back tears breaks my heart. Why did I do this? I'm the monster Bruce described, I'm heartless, not her. I got

up, walked over to Bruce, saw him all proud, hit him as hard as I could and headed for my room. I'm sorry Y/n. I'm just trying to understand you. Forgive me... I felt the water rise in my eyes, no I can't cry. I don't

A few hours have passed since the argument in the dining room, and I've received a lot of calls from Tony, Steve and Clint. They probably want to make sure I'm okay. Seeing that I wasn't answering, they sent

Tony: Hey kiddo! Bruce is a jerk, don't listen to him, you are not a monster or heartless. Don't believe him, if I could I would take him

Clint: Hey silvergirl, I don't know why Nat didn't say anything but just

I don't know what's going on in her head, but I'm sure if you guys

Thor: Hey human! That green monster is wrong. You don't look like a monster at all and it seems to me that it is impossible for a human to

to stand on. I located him from sight, concentrated on him, closed my eyes, focused my senses on him and sat comfortably on the roof.

Apparently it's over, I quickly got up and got o the roof as fast as I could and came to the meeting place. I am exhausted. It only lasted an hour and a half but I tried to take notes at the same time. I usually

Then he came to me and I stood up, greeted him and we le for the

When we got there, we entered the lounge where the other avengers were. He greeted them, I didn't dare to look at them. Alexis took me in his arms, my whole body contracted, he gave me a kiss on the

"I have to go see Fury" I whispered. I barely looked up and met Nat's eyes and it surprised me to see her full of worry and anger. I smiled at her, trying to reassure her, but her look was even more worried.

I le and went to Fury's o ice to give him my report, then I went to

We were all chatting quietly when Agent Peyton and Y/n entered the room. He exchanged a few formalities with the others and then said goodbye to Y/n. He hugged her. How dare he? And why does she not look comfortable at all? I hope he didn't do anything to her! Then he

moments before muttering something incomprehensible. She looked up and I saw her eyes, I read tiredness and sadness. She smiles at me

gave her a kiss on the cheek and le . Y/n stood still for a few

Y/n please, explain me what's happening to you...

given you missions that were too hard for your first time. Not counting the one before of course." Tony tried to reassure me.

I smiled at him, "You're right, what could go wrong, it's not that important a mission either haha." I laughed nervously trying to clear my confusion. Tony seemed satisfied with my answer. While I felt Nat's gaze on me. I turned my head to meet her eyes. I saw understanding in her eyes, then fear, anger and finally concern.

Then Alexis arrived, ready to leave. My eyes were still on Nat. I smiled at her. She frowned and nodded her head from le to right as if to tell

I turned away from her and joined Alexis. I followed him, ready to accomplish my mission. On the way to the jet, I heard the Avengers walking behind us. We arrived at the jet where the Director and Agent Hill were waiting. Fury nodded gently at me, I nodded back and

"Good luck," the director said, looking me in the eye. I stayed on the edge of the jet while Alexis got into the pilot's seat. I crossed Nat's

eyes, mine are full of fear, I hope she doesn't see it.

and that I can leave with confidence.

The door to the jet closed and we le.

So I fake a smile, but I know you know me too well.

But it's alright you're like heaven when I'm in hell.

Nat then looked at me with determination and confidence, she nodded her head up and down as if to tell me that she has my back

but it is clear that it is a false smile.

sleep, I'm tired and tomorrow we go on a mission.

know she doesn't mean anything Bruce said. I know her.

She even hit Bruce before she le, shortly a er you le.

She has locked herself in her room, please come back.

talked about it, everything would be better.

live without a heart, so you must have one.

Know that I too would give my life for you.

We can build some cool stu in the lab if you want?

Please call me back, I care.

want to cry... I broke her heart, and mine too.

Only love can hurt like this.

Y/n's POV

me messages.

out again.

a

Steve: Hey Y/n/n (your nickname) how are you? Wanna go for a run with me to get your mind o things? Where are you? Nobody knows where you went. We're worried. If you need time to clear your head, no worries. But please, while you're thinking, don't think about what Bruce said. It's far from the truth. You have a heart on your sleeve Y/n, everyone knows that.

You are a sweetheart.

Call me if you need me

Please take care of yourself

I sent a joint message to the group saying that I would be home late and that I was out with Agent Peyton. Then I turned o my phone. Everything was going well, he tried his best to clear my head, having noticed that I wasn't at my best. Then came the time when he had to leave. Time to get to work. I walked away from him and found a roof

take it a erwards.

headquarters.

Nat's POV

cheek and le . Everyone was silent.

It's mission time... I don't think I've ever been so stressed. "Aren't you eating?" asked Thor. I've been staring at my plate of pancakes for 20 minutes without touching it. "Hmm no" I then reply handing him the plate. "Don't be so stressed about your Y/n mission, Fury would never have

me not to go.

entered the jet with Alexis.

Y/n's POV

Nat's POV Y/n hardly ate any of her breakfast and looked panicked. It was when she tried to reassure Tony that I knew, I knew instantly what it was all about. I could see in her eyes that she was stressed, much more than she should have been under normal circumstances. But now I understand her weird behavior this month. How stupid I was. All the signs were there though. Forgive me Y/n. Alexis arrived and we all headed to the jet to say goodbye and good luck to Y/n.

The silent exchange between Director Fury and Y/n confirmed my suspicions. They boarded the jet and Y/n looked into my eyes.

I know Y/n, just know that if you were dying on your knees, I would be the one to save you. Like if I was drowning in the sea you would give

I tried to tell her my thoughts through my eyes, she smiled frankly at

"Get ready, everyone," I said. Everyone took a serious look and

Oh yes, I warned everyone before they le to make sure they were ready. Tony then added some GPS trackers to the jet, to Y/n's suit and

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A/n I hope you like this chapter, I just wrote it. It took me a little bit more than 2 hours ^^ I hope you are all fine and happy, don't hesitate to pm me if you need

me your lungs to breathe.

me and they le.

to her weapons.

watched the jet leave.

We got your back, Y/n.

someone to talk to. Please take care of your families, friends and of course take care of yourself! Love you guys, just know that you matter! You are important! Continue reading next part \Box