Chapter 36: the end of the line

Y/n's POV

Time skip: 2 weeks

but luckily or unluckily I feel it less and less. The first days were horrible, I had no voice anymore because of my screaming and I was

but I don't stay in the faint for long so we quickly get back to work.

A er that, the meal arrives, I have 30 minutes to eat something suspicious. I doubt they'll pass the health inspection in the kitchen, but I have no choice but to eat or I'll get beaten again. Yes, I tried to refuse to participate in their activities but I soon realized it was useless. They quickly resorted to using their fists, feet, my collar or even buckets of water to drown me. So I ended up obeying and doing what they asked me.

The a ernoon is pretty okay actually. I'm training with Bucky and it's seriously fun. It reminds me of when I used to train with Steve at the compound. He's kind of shy and reserved but I guess that's because of all the stu he went through in Hydra. I like training with him and I feel like I'm getting better. The first few days were hard because of my injuries so he was nice to me but now I'm better. By some miracle I

didn't lose the sight in my right eye. But now I have a big scar that

starts from my jaw and goes up in a line to the top of my forehead in

I can't take it anymore, I feel like I'm losing myself. Every day it's the

same thing, in the morning, a 4-hour session with Zemo. It's only pain

beaten when I woke up because I couldn't even hold it for 30 minutes.

Now it's a dierent story, I can hold on for 2h30 before passing out,

the middle. He really didn't miss me. Then I also have the big scar on my right arm, which starts in the middle of my forearm and ends at the beginning of my hand. I took a lot of damage in the first fight but that's because I was afraid of him. I must admit that now that we are "friends" I am not afraid of him anymore. Maybe it's because he doesn't seem to be under their control anymore. I think I'm the only one who knows this, otherwise they would have done something by now. I am currently heading to my cell a er fighting with Bucky. I am exhausted, both mentally and physically. But I also have a bad feeling, there is something wrong with me from the beginning. It's probably fatigue, exhaustion. When I arrive in front of my cell, I go to enter when I am stopped. "Not so fast Y/n, come with me. Zemo is waiting for you in room 313," Rumlow tells me. "What do you mean? It's evening, I don't see him until tomorrow morning normally." then I reply, following him despite myself.

"What does this program consist of?" I then asked a er a few minutes.

"It's confidential," he replied.

"Confidential? Seriously? How can it be confidential when I'm the

winter soldier." Rumlow informed me.

main person involved?"

"I don't have any answers for you."

"Don't worry, your morning sessions don't change. From now on, you

will follow the Gamma program a er each training session with the

He opened a door and looked at me.

"Come in and you'll see."

I then entered the room and saw Zemo talking with Ivan. Bucky is there too. Rumlow announced our arrival and everyone turned to me.

Ivan had a big smile on his face that sent shivers down my spine.

Zemo looked at me with pity and guilt in his eyes and then lowered

"Perfect, I'm glad to see you looking good Death Giver. Everything is

going according to plan despite a few disturbances here and there, so we decided to speed things up so we don't waste any time." explained Ivan to me. Why would we want to speed things up if

disturbances is he talking about?

equipment.

Time skip: 2 weeks

his gaze while Bucky did not look at me at all.

"To not waste time? What does that mean? What's going on?" I asked.

"Oh you don't have to worry about that my child. It's not your problem, not yet." replied Ivan before waving to Zemo who set up his

"We'll be able to start," he announced. Two men grabbed me by the

arms, I was struggling, not wanting to have to undergo whatever

everything is going well? There's something he doesn't say. What

treatment. Ivan hissed at Bucky who came towards me and gave me a violent blow to the skull. I lost my balance but was caught and put on a chair. The pain was so bad in my head that I had no idea what was going on, whether people were talking or not. Then a er a few minutes, everything went black.

Avengers' POV

The Avengers are exhausted, they can't take it anymore. They have been attacking base a er base for a month, hoping to find Y/n or a clue to her location. They have been following the list of bases that Y/n had made and they have also created their own list with the information found at each location. Everyone is at a loss. No one

speaks on the jet on the way back. Everyone understands the

no more leads to exploit. Their last hope is the hard drive they

situation. Unfortunately, that was the last base on the list. They have

no more leads. Everyone has reached the end of the line. They have

managed to steal from the last base. But they don't believe in it too

Clint flew the jet in silence. Once he landed, Tony stormed o and

something out of it, he had to, it was their last hope. Nat went to her

On the way out of the jet, they all passed by Fury and Agent Hill. But

none of them gave them a single glance or a word. The director

took refuge in his lab with the hard drive. He was going to get

much, each time the information was futile or was already known by them.

room. Steve went to the gym to hit the punching bags. Bruce went back to his lab. Thor went back to Asgard and Clint also went to his

room.

understood the situation and did not look for more information. He returned to his o ice and Agent Hill returned to hers. And so each Avenger... each of Y/n's friends spent the rest of their evening and the next day alone.

The director gave them all that time o before calling them into a meeting on the third day. They may have hit a wall over Y/n's situation, but that doesn't mean they don't have other obligations.

A er Fury's call, everyone gathered in the meeting room.

"Hello everyone, I understand the situation, we have come up empty once again at the base in Mexico, I imagine you have taken a hard drive and are trying to decrypt it and get access to the information on it. The situation is critical I grant you but we can't wait for things to happen. It's not only Agent Ivanov we have to deal with. Thanks to

her reports and your trips to Hydra's secret bases, we have the names

Tserkov must already know that we have destroyed all his bases, he

must surely be preparing something to counterattack and we don't

inside our organization. So I'm going to assign you a new mission."

of all the infiltrators within the Shield. We need to get busy. Ivan

know from which side it will come. It may come from outside or

explained Director Fury.

"Agent Barton, make a list of all of our agents who are part of Hydra and bug them all."

"Yes sir." replied Clint.

"Agent Romano and Captain America, I want you to take care of our highest ranks, the top brass in our organization who are part of Hydra."

"Yes sir." replied Nat as Steve just nodded.

"Mr. Banner, if you could, with Stark's help, filter our files and prevent

"Yes, Tony gave him a gadget that would flash when we need him."

"All right, Stark, I'm going to need you to contact him and help

access to our data by anyone on Agent Barton's list."

"Does anyone have a way to contact Thor?" asked Fury.

Banner with the protection of our database," Fury said.

"What seems to be the problem, Mr. Stark?" asked Fury.

"I can do that." replied Banner.

replied Steve.

heart?

"Tony-" began Steve

"No way." replied Tony.

"Tony..." said Steve calmly.

"The problem?" asked Tony, laughing sarcastically. "You - you're asking me what the PROBLEM is?" he snarled as he stood up.

"Tony please." said Steve so ly.

"No shut up!" shouted Tony pointing at him. "Shut up, all of you! The

problem here is you! All of you who don't care! Don't you have any

"I TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP!!!" shouted Tony in annoyance. "Y/n is out there somewhere probably being tortured and waiting for us to come rescue her. She's counting on us and you?! You?! what do YOU want to do? Move on?!" Tony then turned to Fury. "You know what? I don't

give a shit about your f*cking organization. Nothing, nothing at all. I

don't give a shit about your bullshit data and your undercover man

problems. It's YOUR fault that Y/N is in this mess! What I want is to

find Y/n and I'm not going to turn a blind eye until I have her back safe

There's no way I'm going to abandon her. I've already wasted enough

å

time with this useless meeting," Tony finished before leaving the

"We are not abandoning Y/n, we will never abandon her. She will

"However, we have no leads other than the one Tony is working on.

essential thing to do. We all want Y/n back, but sitting on our hands is

not going to make it happen any faster. We might as well get rid of the

threat within our walls as quickly as possible while we wait for Tony

to get access to the information we need. Let's keep fighting, let's not

give up, Y/n is counting on us." explained Steve, boosting everyone's

Getting rid of Hydra within the Shield is still an important and

A er Tony le, everyone was silent for several minutes.

always be our priority." It was Steve who spoke first.

and sound. So you can all go on your bullshit mission, I'm going to take care of the hard drive we have and I'm going to get in there and find the information we want. If there's nothing of interest then no problem, I'll scan the whole planet if I have to! But I'll find Y/n.

room and returning to his lab.

"I understand." replied Fury.

morale.

"Thank you Captain for that speech, let's all get to work." finished Fury, sending everyone to their posts. Tony worked for three days without stopping on that drive. Everyone was worried about him and they all brought him food and water hoping he wouldn't starve himself. As Steve and Clint went to his lab with a sandwich for Tony. They saw him breaking everything, throwing things around, sweeping his desks clean, kicking furniture, all the while screaming. Clint and Steve slowly approached. Clint walked over to the computer and crouched down to access it. He looked at it for a few minutes and then sighed. He lowered his head, defeated. Then he looked at Steve who was looking at him worried and curious. Seeing his gaze, Steve became more worried. Then Clint shook his head from le to right before lowering his eyes again. Steve understood what was going on and he understood Tony's rage. They had placed so much hope in this file. Clint stood up and they looked at Tony. The latter, exhausted, had stopped breaking everything and shouting. He glanced briefly at his companions and then le the room without saying a word. "Let's go." said Clint before turning and leaving in his turn. Steve looked around the lab for a moment longer, remembering the times

had happened.

"Weren't you supposed to give him the food?" asked Bruce.

"We were." Clint simply replied. At his best friend's short answer and his friend's silence, Natasha became concerned.

"What happened?" asked Nat.

"Tony managed to get into the hard drive," replied Steve.

"Steve? Clint?" asked Nat, looking for an answer. She already knew

"He didn't find anything about her current location," Clint replied.

"You've got to be kidding me, Bruce." Steve snapped, approaching

"He can move on and help me protect the Shield data now."

"Oh great that, right?" asked Bruce. He got no answer.

what they were going to say, but she wanted to hear it.

exclaimed Bruce.

Bruce. The latter began to back away.

Nat likes her and not you!" enraged Steve

"Steve!" called Nat, hoping to stop him.

go of him with a jerk and stepped back.

ounce of humanity in you?!"

when he brought Tony and Y/n lunch when they were too busy to

think about caring for their own bodies. He wanted to stay calm, but

like Tony, he wanted to destroy everything. Finally, he le the room

common room where Bruce and Natasha were. Seeing them return

with the food and their discomfited faces, the two wondered what

and caught up with Clint in the hallways. The two headed to the

"What? He wanted to check the hard drive for a clue to the Y/n situation, he did what he wanted to do. Now he'll be able to do what we asked him to do." resumed Bruce.

"Do you realize what you are saying?! Don't you have any sense of morality? Y/n is missing! She was kidnapped by a terrorist organization and all you can think about is yourself and your own problems. We all know you don't like Y/n because you're jealous that

"We care about Y/n, the least human thing is to show empathy and

"STEVE STOP!" shouted Nat. Bringing Steve back to himself. He was

holding Bruce by the collar and had him pinned against a wall. He let

compassion to people who have no spirit le! Have you lost every

a

å

"Sorry." he said.

Bruce was about to speak when a rainbow beam fell from the sky and planted itself in the garden floor. Everyone rushed to the window and

they saw Thor running to the building. Everyone went downstairs,

Thor. He was running towards them, no one had ever seen him as

serious, hurried and out of breath as he was at that moment.

and they all found themselves outside, including Tony who had seen

Everyone was surprised to see him and thought that Tony had called

him, but he shrugged his shoulders at the questioning looks of his colleagues. Then Thor arrived at their level and froze everyone by saying only one sentence..

"I know where Y/n is."