



## xx. Return of the Witch

**A/N: I've missed Maria and Wanda and Sam and Bucky and all of them.**

Auralie's eyes flickered open, and her entire body hurt. Her gaze focused, and for a moment, she thought she was hallucinating. But no, Wanda was really there. She could feel the witch's arms around her, she could see the worry in Wanda's eyes.

"You're here," Auralie said thickly, tears in her eyes.

ā

Wanda gave a small smile, "you saved the day darling, you did it. We're all back. You fixed it."

"How long have I been out," Auralie asked, reaching up to gently touch Wanda's cheek.

Wanda replied, "not long. I got here a minute ago. I woke up..... came back..... whatever you want to call it, in Wakanda, where I was when I turned to dust. I brought myself and the others here, with my magic. They ran to help the Avengers. I stayed here to wait for you."

"You could have gone to battle, I would have been fine," Auralie groaned.

"I wanted to thank you, for saving my life. Ali, what you did, it could have killed you," Wanda said, her hand stroking Auralie's hair lightly.

Auralie sighed, "it would have been worth it. I'd die a thousand deaths for you."

"Please don't," Wanda said, "darling, thank you, but you need to take it easy now. You put great strain on yourself. Stay here, please, and let me handle this. I don't want you to hurt yourself anymore."

Auralie tried to protest that she was fine, but she could barely sit up, so she figured there was no point in arguing. Wanda was right. But then Auralie remembered something else, "Wanda, the ones in space! They won't know what happened. The other Guardians of the Galaxy and Spiderman and the magical guy with the cape!"

"I'll take care of it. I can magic them here. You rest," Wanda said, her voice low and soothing, "I'll destroy the gauntlet, I promise you."

"You aren't scared?" Auralie asked.

"Of course I'm scared, but the world needs me," Wanda replied.

Auralie smiled serenely. Wanda had come so far from the young revenge-hungry woman she once was. Auralie had come a long way from the broken and afraid girl she had been. They were lucky, the two of them, to have each other. They were lucky to have gotten each other back.

"I love you, Wanda," Auralie whispered, "you've got this."

"I love you too," Wanda said, leaning down and quickly kissing her soulmate, "and also, I know that's my jacket, but you can keep it. It looks good on you."

She made sure Auralie was alright before using her magic to fly away from the compound and towards the battle.

She remembered what Auralie had said about the heroes stranded in space. She searched for their minds, at least, one of the minds, the one she remembered, Spiderman's. When she found it, far away on a distant planet, and opened a portal, like a pool of red in the air.

"Come through. It's me, Wanda Maximoff, the Scarlet Witch! I'm with the Avengers."

She heard the sounds of people whispering, and then they began coming through the portal. Spiderman was first, followed by a man who looked like the wizard version of Sherlock Holmes, and then came a man who looked like he was from Jurassic World, and two aliens.

ā

"Is Mr. Stark alright," Spiderman asked, "where is he?"

"He needs our help," Wanda replied, "they're fighting Thanos. I can destroy the infinity gauntlet, but we need to defeat the alien army first. Are you with me."

Though some of them seemed more than a little confused, they all nodded and raced with her towards the battle. They were superheroes, this was what they did. They led crazy lives and fought when necessary. It often didn't make sense, but they were saving lives.

Already the tide of the battle had turned. Steve, Nat, Sam, and Bucky were all side by side and fighting. T'Challa and Okoye, who had led Wakanda under Shuri's care to join the fight and make sure Thanos was defeated, were winning against all the aliens that tried to destroy them. Rocket and Groot were reunited and working to keep Thanos busy. The Avengers were revitalized by the sight of their friends, alive and well and with them.

"Mr. Stark," Peter cried, shooting his webs and swinging up into the air to join the billionaire, "Mr. Stark I'm ok! You're ok too right! Please be ok!"

ā

"Peter, yeah, I'm ok," Tony said, his voice laced with emotion. Quickly the Spiderman teamed up with the two older heroes in metal suits.

Wanda watched as Rocket and Groot spotted their friends. Their faces lit up, and a tear ran down Rocket's face. Wanda felt her heartache. None of them had deserved this. Now they had to make sure Thanos could never do anything like it again.

"Is Ali ok?" Steve called to Wanda.

Wanda nodded, "she's resting. What she did took a lot out of her."

"I'll say," Bucky said, "little Ali saved us all."

Sam laughed, "dude, Ali is an Avenger. We're forces of nature when the world is at stake. How else do you think Steve manages to jump out of planes without a parachute."

"YOU DO WHAT," Bucky yelled at his best friend.

ā

Steve looked sheepish, "not now Buck, it's a battle."

Natasha turned to Wanda, hoping to talk to the other girl. "What Ali did was absolutely amazing," Natasha said, as Wanda used her magic to rip aliens apart.

Wanda smiled, "My Auralie is absolutely amazing."

That was when an alien lept up behind Wanda. Before the witch could use her magic on it, a bullet tore through its skull. Wanda and Natasha both whirled around to see Maria Hill, armed and ready to fight. Nick Fury watched her, looking eternally exasperated with this team of superheroes that he had to deal with.

ā

"Do I even wanna know how you all got into this mess?" Fury asked.

ā

"I'll fill you in later boss, we're in the middle of something right now," Natasha replied.

Maria smiled at Wanda, "Hi Wanda, did I hear you mention my sister's name."

"Yeah," Wanda replied, "thanks for saving me."

"Of course," Maria said, "can't have the woman who's basically my sister in law getting killed by aliens. Now, I've got these guys, you go stop Thanos."

"Thanks, Maria," Wanda said, and she broke into a run. She was going to destroy the infinity stones and stop the mad titan. The fate of the world was at stake.

[Continue reading next part](#) □