



Bonus Chapter: Pietro Maximo ; Professional Mood Killer

Having a brother in law was great. Having a brother in law tag along on a date night with your wife was not so great. This was what Auralie had discovered one fateful day.

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Wanda and Auralie were eating lunch together just outside of the compound because they had been doing research with the others the past few days and hadn't gotten a moment alone. So, Sam had dismissed everyone for lunch, and Wanda and Auralie had requested a little time to themselves. That was great. It was a nice day, and Auralie rested her head on Wanda's shoulder as she sat there and ate her sandwich.

That was when Pietro decided to crash their little lunch date.

"Hi guys," Pietro said, "mind if I join you."

"Uh, we're kind of on a little date, Pietro," Wanda said, tugging at the sleeves of her sweater uncomfortably.

Pietro promptly sat down, "oh cool, sounds fun. So, how's life?"

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"Uh..... Pietro," Wanda said, trying to cue him into the fact that he was being disruptive.

Pietro smiled, "I know, I know, it's weird, not hanging out all the time. But you were right, it was better for me to move into the compound. I like it a lot here. But, that means I need time to catch up with my favorite sister and sis in law."

Auralie rolled her eyes, impatient, "Pietro, I'm your only sister in law."

Pietro grinned, "just because it's by default, doesn't mean it doesn't count."

Wanda sighed, "Pietro please, you're kind of killing the mood."

"Oh," Pietro said, "sorry. We can go back to talking about whatever you wanted to talk about. I'll listen."

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Wanda and Auralie exchanged looks. Pietro was not taking the hint. At all. Auralie sighed and put her face in her hands. She loved her brother in law, she really did. He was loyal and brave and fun to be around and Pietro was the one being in the world that cared about Wanda as much as Auralie did. But damn it, he was annoying as all get out sometimes.

Wanda played with a little swirl of her scarlet magic. It was clear that she was frustrated with her brother too. From all the stories the witch had told her wife about growing up, Pietro was remarkably stubborn and sometimes childish and petty. From what Auralie had seen of him interacting with Clint, that was true. What she hadn't realized was that the speedster would be so clueless sometimes.

"Hey Wanda, remember when we were growing up, and I used to get into races with all the neighborhood kids at the schoolyard?" Pietro asked.

"Yes Pietro, I remember," Wanda said, with that endless patience Auralie admired.

"Imagine if I had my superspeed back then. I would have never lost. I mean, not like I lost, to begin with," Pietro said nostalgically.

Auralie snorted, "wow, seems like you two were more social than I was. I spent most of my six years in the orphanage avoiding people and reading everything I could get my hands on."

Wanda smiled fondly, "Pietro was the social one. I spent my childhood in a very similar way to the way you spent yours."

"So at the library," Auralie finished.

"Exactly," Wanda replied, "look at us. We're so in sync."

Auralie laughed, "it was destiny."

"Yeah, you two do have that written in the stars kind of vibe," Pietro commented, not realizing he was ruining the mood yet again. He seemed to be something of a professional at it.

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Auralie decided to make the best of the situation and said, "so, Pietro, what else was it like growing up with Wanda in Sokovia?"

"Oh, well, I was the twin who liked to run around with all the other kids my age, and Wanda was the one who didn't like people and preferred being by herself. We both liked baking with mom and cooking with dad. We liked watching movies. Wanda did not like it when I stole her food, but I did it anyway," Pietro replied, a fond smile on his face. Auralie sighed. She couldn't send him away, not when he looked so happy.

Wanda rolled her eyes, "you forgot to mention the parts where you did something stupid like yelling in class and got detention and I had to wait for you so we could walk home together. I swear, babysitting you was the reason I got through so many stories when I was little."

Pietro stuck out his tongue, "I was not that bad."

"No, but you were very immature," Wanda shot back.

Pietro whined, "was not."

"Was too," Wanda said, a little sharp-tempered, "now Pietro, I do enjoy spending time with you, but I would like to spend a little bit alone with my wife on our DATE!"

Pietro's face fell, "oh, ok, I'm sorry I was ruining the mood." He floated o

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"Sorry," Wanda said to Auralie.

Auralie sighed, "he's a little annoying sometimes but, it's alright. You didn't have to tell him to leave. I just have to get a little more used to the whole ghost in law thing."

"And I have to make sure that Pietro realizes that he can't just float into everyone's business. And accept that he probably won't listen to me the first time," Wanda said.

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That was when Pietro floated right back over, "ok, so I know I was being intrusive before, but I think I should make it up to you. So, you two finish your picnic and I'll leave you alone."

Wanda smiled, "thanks, Pietro."

"Actually," Auralie said, "come and join us."

"Really?" Pietro replied, "wouldn't I just ruin the mood."

"You already killed it," Auralie said, "so, by all means, sit down."

Pietro laughed and took his seat, not realizing Wanda had her head in her hands, exasperated. Pietro grinned, "I can't wait to tell you about all the shenanigans Wanda and I pulled as little kids."

"Auralie why would you invite him? Why?" Wanda cried.

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Auralie laughed. So this was the Maximo family. Teasing and fun and loving. She liked it. She liked it very much, even if it ruined the mood occasionally.

A/N: I'll be honest, I brought Pietro back specifically because I had the idea for this bonus chapter. So yeah, here's the first bonus chapter.

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