

I Won't Lose Another Love

I was in the kitchen when I heard the door open and close. I leant forward holding onto the edge of the sideboard. The regret written clear as day on my face.

"That is not a happy face." Steve gave me a smile as he leant against the door.

"I can't do this anymore Steve." I muttered just loud enough for him to hear.

"Is this you or Bucky talking?"

I sighed, looking up at him as he walked closer towards me. "Don't make this any harder than it needs to be." I couldn't tell him that this wasn't what I wanted. To walk away from what we had but I would not risk losing Bucky.

Steve huffed, running his hand through his hair. "What do you expect me to say Y/N?"

"That you understand like you promised you would."

I didn't want to lose him completely, no matter how selfish that made me. He'd promised before that first time that he would always be there for me. That if we ended this he'd understand. I needed him to keep that promise now.

"Things changed, you know that." His voice became strained. I was unsure if he was holding back anger or tears, either way it made me feel like shit.

"Not for me they didn't. It will always, always be him." My voice broke, giving away how much this was hurting me as well as him.

"I'll ask you one more time. Is this you or him talking?" He asked through gritted teeth.

"What does it matter?" I through my hands up in frustration, turning to face him. "The outcome is the same."

"It matters to me!" He snapped.

"It's both of us okay?"

I knew deep down I couldn't blame it all on Bucky. If I truly wanted to stay with Steve I would've fought harder, tried to make Bucky change his mind. The fact was that I hadn't. I knew there was love there for both me and Steve, but it was nothing compared to the all consuming love I had for Bucky. The kind of love you'd kill for.

"Don't stand there and fucking lie to me!" He roared, his anger shining through like a beacon on a dark night. The darkness in him staring back at me.

I glared at him. "Shout at me again and I won't be responsible for what I do." I snapped back. After everything I'd been through at Hydra I wouldn't be intimidated in that way again.

He sighed, shaking his head as he took a step back. I could see the glistening of tears behind his eyes, only making me feel worse than I already did. He was hurting and it was all my fault again I wanted to wrap my arms around him, tell him it would all be okay but I couldn't. I didn't know what the future held for any of us. Maybe one day Bucky would regain his memories and we could start again, but I couldn't give Steve that hope. I wasn't that cruel, not anymore.

"I'm sorry Steve." An apology was all I could offer him.

He scoffed. "Yeah. Me too." He took a step towards me, stopping when I took a step back. Without another word he stormed out.

When the door slammed behind him I let myself cry for what I'd lost. I knew what I had with Bucky was worth it, but I had feelings for Steve too. No matter how much I wanted to deny how much the Captain meant to me, my tears streaming down my face told me otherwise.

Running upstairs, I locked myself in the bathroom. Bucky didn't need to see this when he came home. He didn't need to see that his best friend had become more to me than I'd planned.

I sat with my back against the door, letting myself grieve for what I'd lost. Time failed to exist as I willed myself to stop crying, to realise that this was for the best.

Bucky's voice filtering through from downstairs finally pulled me out of my breakdown. I splashed some water on my face, trying to get rid of the redness around my eyes. With a sigh I resigned myself to the fact that nothing was going to hide the pain around my eyes.

Walking downstairs I found Bucky waiting on the sofa. He immediately took in my disheveled state, opening his arms to me.

"Come here doll."

I climbed onto his lap, biting my head in the crook of his neck. His hands slipped under my top, holding me close to him. He didn't ask if I was okay, it was clear to both of us that I wasn't. He just held me, keeping me safe in his arms like he always had. He was my safe place.

"Buck?" I mumbled against him.

"Yeah?"

"Take me to bed. Please?"

He stood up, holding me against him as I wrapped my legs around his waist. He chuckled realising I wasn't planning on walking.

The second Steve saw Bucky enter the house his blood began to boil. It was time to put his plan into motion. He'd get her back in his arms no matter the cost.

Dialling Nat's number he waited for her to pick up.

"Did you get it?" He snapped as she answered.

She sighed. "This isn't something you can come back from." She warned him, not entirely sure if this was the best way to get what they wanted.

"I know Nat, but I have no other choice."

"We always have a choice. You taught me that."

Steve knew she was right. Given time Y/N might go back to him, she might give it another chance. Unfortunately there was too many ifs, something he couldn't risk. If she stayed away too long her feelings for him would change. He'd seen the pain in her eyes when she ended things. She loved him, of that he was sure. He needed to act quickly.

"I've got too much to lose. I've lost one love, I won't lose another."

Nat pushed her guilt down. This would get her what she wanted, she needed to concentrate on that for now.

"I'll get it." She promised. "What are you going to do?"

"Find someone to take the fall." He hung up.

Thankfully, sat back at the compound was someone he could manipulate. Someone who craved their freedom. His loyalty to Y/N might be a problem but Steve knew how to play on that.

Now he just had to wait for Nat to play her part so he could play his.

Y/N would come back to him. No matter the cost.

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