

Spider-Man 171

Chapter 171: Ripped Fatty

Time Skip - 5 Months

It's been months since Peter found Tony in a compromising position at that alien brothel, and a bit has happened.

First, the ships that they received from the Nova Empire have been fixed and are now fully operational.

Each of them has gone through a small change though.

Upon looking into the system that powers the large warships, Peter and Tony found that each one had a reactor that kept everything running.

Sadly, the core of the reactor was some sort of unknown element, at least to those on Earth.

Seeing that this problem would come to bite them in the butt soon enough, Peter and Tony got to work and replaced every reactor with a larger version of Tony's arc reactor.

Of course, every ship was powered by Badassium, Earth's very own one-of-a-kind element.

This seemed to be an upgrade compared to the former power supply, which upgraded three major things in every ship.

The beam cannons can now shoot a laser five times as strongly.

The engines currently generate triple the power.

Lastly, the shields can now stay on 24/7 outside of battle, though they would still slowly degrade if they took enough damage.

Seeing that leaving the ships on Earth would be inviting certain groups to try and steal them, Peter had Jarvis fly them to specific intervals around the planet, setting up a huge defensive perimeter.

"All ships are in orbit around the Earth, sir." Jarvis said only minutes after Peter gave the order.

"Good, remember to keep the scans open at all times, and let us know if we have any more visitors." Peter instructed as he looked at a hologram of the planet, showing the exact locations of each ship.

These ships have a much better capability to scan farther distances than the Stark satellites, so they would be a better warning system in case of another invasion.

Speaking of an invasion.

Thanos nor his armies have shown themselves yet, though the web of ships surrounding the planet isn't just for scanning.

"Jarvis, If there's ever another attack on the planet and nobody from the Avengers is reachable or willing to take action, feel free to activate the ships and attack. Any opposition should be taken care of outside of the planet." Peter told Jarvis thoughtfully. "Just be relatively sure that they're hostile first. We wouldn't want to attack anyone for no reason."

"Yes, sir." Jarvis replied affirmatively. "I'll run simulations for future battles."

Other than finishing up the new Avengers war fleet, nothing much has happened besides something that has been a long time coming.

-Flashback-

Sitting in the living room, Peter watched as Ned, May, Grace, and MJ all sat on the couch, waiting for his announcement.

"Peter, what's going on?" May asks as she looks at him in confusion.

She wasn't the only one either.

Grace was especially surprised that she was invited, as she was only recently clued into the fact that Peter was Spider-Man, and everyone knew but her.

As for Ned and MJ, they had a feeling about a few reasons for this impromptu meeting but weren't sure exactly.

"I have figured out a way to give all of you an extended lifespan as well as superpowers." Peter cuts right to the point.

"Oh, sh*t!" Ned exclaims as he jumps out of his seat. "It's finally happening!"

"For real?" MJ asked, hoping that Peter wasn't lying to her right now.

For a while now, MJ has wanted nothing more than to be able to watch Peter's back, so that she could protect the man she loves.

Meanwhile, both Grace and May were surprised, though they had the same thought.

'Lifespan? Could it make me look younger?' Both thought at the exact same time.

"Yup, for real." Peter says as he pulls out a vial filled with dragon bone dust. "This is crushed-up pieces of fossilized Dragon Bones."

"Wow..." Ned uttered as he rushed over and snatched the vial from his best friend's hand. "What does it do?"

"It has a large quantity of Chi, which will give you..." Peter starts to explain the whole process of the resurrection Elixir. "... and when they mix, you will get the powers of both substances combined."

Peter then went on to explain their blood options. Either normal human blood, Super Soldier blood, or his own blood.

"So, we could get your powers?" Ned asks with an excited glint in his eyes.

"..." MJ seemed to prefer this option too, as an interested glint appeared on her pretty face.

"Maybe?" Peter answers unsurely.

Instantly, everyone in the room looked at him funny.

"What does that mean?" MJ asks in confusion. "Isn't that what you said?"

"Hmm, yes and no." Peter answers with a thoughtful expression. "I learned early on that my powers were given to me by a higher power, not just because I was bitten by a special spider."

"So, god gave you your powers?" Grace asks as that was how she interpreted Peter's words.

"Not exactly..." Peter answers with an unknowing shrug. "If I had to guess, the higher power would have to be okay with you having spider-related powers, so It's a bit of a gamble really."

"What if we don't want superpowers?" May asks as she raises her hand like a child at school. "I'm not very interested in being a hero, so I don't think that this should include me."

Although May found the possibility of being young for a long time appealing, she wasn't exactly a fighter. She would fight if her loved ones were in danger but making it a full-time job like Peter wasn't in her thoughts.

"I'm not asking any of you to be a hero. I just want all of you to be safe. Simply having the power to defend yourselves would be more than enough." Peter says in a serious tone, which seemed to win everyone over.

"And if we do want to be heroes?" MJ asks.

Instantly, MJ's mother turns a pointed gaze in her direction.

"What?" Grace asks, not knowing her daughter had dreams of being a hero.

"I want to fight alongside Peter..." She admits, which causes her mother's glare to turn a bit softer.

"Me too!" Ned joined in excitedly.

...

After some thought, everyone came to a decision regarding their Elixir. They all unanimously decided to use Peter's blood.

May and Grace didn't really care, so they went with whatever Ned and MJ chose. For them, It was a gamble for Peters overpowered spider powers.

Though there really wasn't a downside, as Peter was also enhanced by the Super Soldier Serum as well, so they would get Captain America's powers no matter what.

Seeing as May and Grace didn't care much about the procedure, Ned and MJ played Rock Paper Scissors to decide which of them would go first, as Peter only had one coffin-like device made, which was the same one he used on Peggy.

""Rock Paper Scissors... shoot!"" They said in unison as their hands jut forward.

"I win!" Ned exclaims as his rock beat her scissors.

"I've told you a million times. They always go rock first." Peter says in an 'I told you so' sort of tone.

"Shut up..."

Calling Ned's family beforehand, they explained that he would be spending the night at Peters, as the procedure would most likely take the entire night.

"Alright, good luck." Peter says as he pokes a spot on Ned's neck, which causes him to fall asleep instantly.

Thankfully, he was already laying in the metal coffin, so Peter simply closed the lid and turned to see everyone else giving him questioning looks.

"What? It's just a pressure point. He'll be fine." Peter explains as he pulls a lever, causing the thick black Elixir to fill the metal coffin, drowning Ned completely.

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"Now what?" Grace asks as the room grew silent.

"Now we wait." Peter replies, crushing everyone's anticipation. "Want to play some board games?"

Hours passed as the night sky brightened and morning came along.

Peter was the only one still awake, as the girls were too tired to make it past 4 AM. Usually, MJ could stay up longer, but she got annoyed with Peter during their game of monopoly and ran off to bed.

'Even in this world Monopoly can ruin families and end friendships...' Peter thought with a laugh as he sipped on a cup of coffee while watching over Ned.

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Suddenly, the metal coffin's lid burst open and a man covered in black goo lunged out as he gasped for air.

Gasp...Heavy Breathing

Knowing the drill, Peter walked over and used a towel to help Ned get the black Elixir off of his face.

"I feel... different." Ned mutters as he starts wiping the black substance from his body, not noticing the changes that have occurred just yet.

All of the sudden, footsteps could be heard from the stairway.

"Peter, do we have coffee?" May came walking downstairs in pajamas and asked, though she froze in place when she saw a tall muscular naked man, wiping his body with a black gooey towel.

"Who's that?"

Chapter 172: Neds Transformation

"Who's that?" May asks as she saw an unfamiliar naked man in her living room.

"What do you mean, Ms. Parker?" Ned asks in confusion, still unaware of the changes that have taken place to his body. "It's me, Ned..."

"..." May looked at Peter in shock as Ned stood to the side, holding a slimy towel over his family jewels.

Without a word, Peter waves his hand and conjured a tall mirror in front of Ned, shocking him even more than May.

"Huh? Who's that?!" Ned repeated the same words as May as he stared at himself in the mirror.

"It's you, Ned." Peter says with a smirk.

Not only did the Elixir make Ned a few inches taller, but it also removed all of the excess fat from his body. Though the fat didn't just disappear, it was used as fuel to build a very muscular body.

While Peter had a slim and muscular build, Ned now has a body similar to Steve. In short, he looks like a shredded bodybuilder.

"Dude..." Ned mutters as he looks between both the mirror and Peter. "Holy sh*t!"

He started freaking out and without noticing he began to feel up his body, trying to make sure that the mirror wasn't some sort of illusion.

"I-I'm not fat anymore..." Ned stutters as a stray tear drips down his cheek.

Being the fat kid in school takes a toll, as children are very candid with their thoughts. Even teenagers will use anything against you if they don't like you enough.

Flash especially, though he wasn't a bully anymore.

Ned, like any other overweight kid, learned early that he had to laugh with the fat jokes, or simply ignore them depending on who was saying it.

Over the years, he grew callous to anything related to his weight, as he heard it all a million times.

Seeing himself as a sort of Greek god was just too much of a shock to Ned. His mind couldn't handle it as years of trauma due to his own body image came to the surface all at once.

"Let's get you in the shower, Buddy..." Seeing this happening in real time, Peter opened a portal to the bathroom and helped Ned walkthrough, as his body wasn't used to such a dramatic change yet.

Escorting him into the shower and turning it on, Peter could still see some stray tears falling down Ned's stunned face.

"I'll go get you a new towel and some clothes." Peter says as he walks back through the portal.

"Peter!" Ned called out, stopping Peter in his tracks.

"Yeah?" He asks, looking over his shoulder.

"Thank you..." Ned says emotionally.

"What are best friends for, right?" Peter says with a warm smile as the portal closes, leaving Ned in the bathroom alone.

Sometime later, Ned exited the bathroom in one of Peter's outfits, as any of his old clothes would be too large now. Although Peter's clothes were a bit tight on him, they really showed off the definition of his new body.

As soon as Ned walked down to the living room, he rushed over to Peter and wrapped him in a big hug, lifting Peter off the ground with ease.

"This is the best day of my life!" Ned exclaimed as he spun around with Peter in tow.

Seated on the couch, May, Grace, and MJ watched with mixed expressions on their faces.

Grace and MJ were shocked beyond belief, as they hadn't seen Neds change yet. They saw Ned on a regular basis, especially MJ, so they didn't fully believe that the person in front of them was actually Ned.

"Okay okay, calm down." Peter says as Ned puts him down.

"Ned, is that really you?" MJ asks as she walks over in surprise.

"Oh yeah!" Ned answers excitedly as he starts flexing like a bodybuilder, though he knew none of the poses so he came off clumsy and idiotic.

'Yup, That's Ned...' MJ thought with a roll of her eyes.

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"So, did you get Peters spider powers?" MJ asks as soon as Ned stopped making a fool out of himself.

"Uhh, I don't know..." Ned answers with a shrug. "I'm definitely stronger though. That's for sure."

"Let's test it out." Peter declares as he walks off into the kitchen. "I'll be right back."

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Only a minute later, without anyone noticing, an egg came flying out of the kitchen door and smacked Ned in the back of the head, exploding upon impact.

"What the!" Ned exclaimed as he flinched and grabbed the back of his head, getting a handful of egg yolk in the process.

Turning toward the kitchen door, everyone found Peter standing there with a carton of eggs in hand.

"Sorry, but I'm afraid you didn't win the gamble." Peter says with a shake of his head.

No Spider sense means that he most likely doesn't have any spider related powers.

"It's okay." Ned says as he does his best to hide his disappointment. "This is already more than enough. Thanks again, Peter."

"No problem." Peter says as he walks over and pats him on the shoulder. "Although you didn't get my spider powers, it looks like you definitely got the effects of the Super Soldier Serum."

Of course, Peter already told them about his and Tony's experimenting with the serum, so they already knew.

"..." Ned smiles upon hearing Peter's words, though that smile is soon replaced by a contemplative look. "I need to come up with a Superhero name..."

"You need a suit as well." Peter adds another task for him to figure out.

"Um, how are we supposed to explain Ned's new look?" MJ asks as she realizes that they have a whole school of people to answer to, not to mention Ned's family.

Silence fills the room in an instant...

"Since it's summer, we can explain Ned's transformation as the results of extreme diet and exercise, though people may think that you took steroids. It would be a bit hard to believe, but there shouldn't be any major problems. As for his family, we only have to worry about your parents." Peter says as he thinks for a moment.

After a second of silence, Peter contemplated the possibility of performing some mind magic on Ned's parents, but soon threw that thought away.

"Ned, you can tell them that you woke up with superpowers. They'll probably think you're a meta-human. Just make sure to keep them quiet because having powers can attract a lot of unsavory attention." Peter explains.

Hearing Peter's plan, Ned was a bit disappointed by his words. Since MJ's mother was allowed to know about everything, then he wanted to tell his parents as well.

Of course, he would respect Peter's decision, as it wasn't his secret to tell in the first place. This all started with Peter, so he would have to be the one to give permission, and Peter wasn't very close to Ned's parents in the first place.

They didn't have a bad relationship or anything. It's just that Ned's parents don't speak English, so there has always been a sort of language barrier between them.

Maybe someday Peter would let Ned reveal everything to his parents, but that time wasn't now.

As for the rest of Ned's extended family, like his grandparents, cousins, etc., they can get the same excuse as everyone at school. They don't live with him and only visit for holidays and reunions, so they weren't a problem.

"Sounds good." Ned nodded in agreement. "Should I go and tell them now?"

"If you want, but you'll miss out on everyone else getting their powers next." Peter says with a shrug.

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After some thought, Ned decided to run off home to explain the good news to his parents. He couldn't hold in the excitement and wanted to see their reactions.

"I'll be back tomorrow!" Ned said as he ran out of the door at the fastest speed he has ever moved in his life.

After some cleaning up from Ned's procedure, it was finally time for MJ to go through the same thing.

Standing in front of the metal coffin, MJ looked nervous, though she was also pulsing with excitement.

"You ready?" Peter asks as he finished refilling the elixir, made with his own blood of course.

"Yeah, I'm just a little nervous..." She says as Peter pulls her into his chest from behind, wrapping his arms around her waist.

"You'll be asleep the whole time." He whispers in her ear and plants a soft kiss on her cheek. "It'll be over before you even know it, I promise."

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"Awww..." Grace exclaims as she and May peek their heads out from the kitchen door, ruining the moment completely.

"Why are they always like this..." MJ muttered as Peter let go of her.

"Who knows." Peter sighed alongside her.

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After stripping off all of her clothes off, MJ lay in the coffin completely nude, looking up at Peter who was crouched above her.

"Ready?" Peter asks, noticing the nervous look on her face alongside the loud pounding of her beating heart.

"...yeah." She answers back after a short pause.

"Okay..." Peter says as he pokes her neck the same way as Ned. "Love you."

"!" Hearing Peter's sudden declaration, which he has never said before, MJ's eyes go wide as she swiftly drifts off into a deep slumber.

Smirking at her expression, Peter closed the lid and hit the lever, releasing the elixir and starting the process.

"That was so cute!" May practically squealed.

Grace felt the same way, though she was too nervous for her daughter to show it at the moment.

'They always find a way to ruin the moment, don't they?'

Chapter 173: Spider Granny Returns

Similar to Ned, Peter waited up all night, watching over the metal coffin.

Though this time around he had a companion, who never left the room or took her eyes off of the coffin for a single second.

"You know, you can sleep if you want?" Peter looked to Grace, who was worriedly staring at the coffin.

"I can't..." She replies with a nervous sigh. "I feel like I'm at her funeral."

"Well, that's probably the sh*tty design on my part." Peter admits, getting a small laugh from Grace. "Now that I think about it, I could have made something a bit less morbid, though I was rushed at the time."

The room returned to silence as the two of them sat quietly on the couch together.

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"I'm going to make more coffee." Grace says as she walks off into the kitchen with an empty mug in hand.

Hours pass as both Peter and Grace sat in the living room.

Since Peter was used to this and confident in the procedure's success, he started playing on his phone as the night went on. So far, two procedures like this have gone through with perfect results, so he wasn't that worried.

On the other hand, Grace chugged caffeine all night and stayed vigilant, ready for some sort of horrible incident to occur at any moment.

"Huh?" MJ grunted as she awoke in an unfamiliar place.

Surrounding her was an odd-looking dimension that seemed to be separated by spider webs. MJ breathed heavily as she stood up from the floor and looked around, shocked and frightened by this random turn of events.

Only moments ago, her boyfriend said he loved her for the first time and put her to sleep so that she could receive the Resurrection Elixir.

'Where am I?' She thought.

In between the web-like structure of this unimaginable dimension, different versions and outcomes of what appeared to be her life played out over and over.

As if she was watching multiple televisions, MJ witnessed all sorts of lives that she could or would have lived. From mundane lives, where she lived like a normal person with a job, husband, and children, to lives that are much more fantastical, where she became a hero in her own right.

Ignoring the boring lives, as they didn't interest her one bit, especially since most of them didn't include Peter, MJ watched the lives that looked far more interesting. In every one of them, she would become a spider-related hero that went by all sorts of names.

Spider-Woman

Spider-Girl

Silk

Ghost-Spider

Etc.

MJ watched as different versions of herself fought familiar and unfamiliar villains, using her powers and smarts to stop crime and protect civilians.

"What is this?" She muttered in confusion.

"It's you." The voice of an elderly woman fills the spider web dimension.

Following the sound, MJ turns to see an old decrepit-looking woman with spider-like appendages sitting on a stone throne. Not only does she have eight black spider legs coming out of her back, but also multiple beady black eyes on her wrinkled face.

The Great Weaver.

"Uhh, I can see that, but how and why?" MJ asks back, stunned by the mutant-looking woman.

"Across the infinite multi-verse, Michelle Jones Watson always has a fifty-fifty chance of being something great." The old spidery woman says as she gestures to the playing images. "Which will it be this time? A mundane life as anyone else, or something more?"

"Who are you?" MJ asks, unsure of whether she could trust the woman before her.

"That doesn't matter." The Great Weaver shakes her head, unwilling to answer any questions. "Just know that I'm the one who bestowed power to the man whom you cherish so dearly."

"Wait..." MJ speaks, remembering what Peter said only yesterday.

'I learned early on that my abilities were given to me by a higher power, not just because I was bitten by a special spider.'

"I see." MJ mutters as she figured out what was going on. 'Did I win the gamble?'

"Not yet, no." The spider granny answered with a creepy knowing smirk, easily reading MJ's thoughts.

"Did you just..." MJ asks as she feels oddly violated.

"Yes." The Great Weaver's smile only widens upon seeing her reaction.

"That's not an invasion of privacy at all..." MJ says with a heavy bit of sarcasm.

"You act as if I don't know everything about you already." The elderly woman says with a cackle.

"..." MJ frowned as she felt naked in front of the cosmic being across from her.

"Enough of that." The Great Weaver said as she stopped laughing and looked at MJ seriously. "So, what is your choice, girly?"

"What do you mean?" MJ asks, not understanding what she meant.

"Sigh, I forgot how annoying it is to deal with you mortals..." Spider granny comments rudely.

"Sorry?" MJ apologizes unsurely.

"Well, you can't help it, I suppose." She responds with an uncaring shrug. "Let me spell it out for you. Would you like to get similar powers to your future husband?"

"..." MJ's eyes go wide open as she heard that.

"Oops, how careless of me." The Great Weaver says, as though she didn't mean to reveal that little tidbit.

"Future husband?" MJ repeats questioningly.

"Well, he could be." She replies in an uncaring tone. "Nothing is set in stone after all."

"I-I..." MJ didn't know how to reply to that.

"Well, I've wasted enough time. Choose now or I'll choose for you." The elderly woman gives her an ultimatum.

"..." At that moment, MJ froze as she saw the woman before her about to open her mouth once again. "I want the powers!"

Seeing that her choice was almost taken away from her, MJ acted quickly and shouted her answer before it was too late.

"Good..." The Great Weaver smirked as she waved her hand.

Instantly, with the wave of her hand, a great force impacted MJ's body and knocked her backward.

"Huh!?" MJ grunted as the force hit her and she flew into a small spider web-shaped portal.

As Peter was tapping away on his phone, Grace was fidgeting in her seat from the copious amounts of caffeine that she consumed to stay up all night.

As a single working mother, Grace hasn't pulled an all-nighter like this in years, so the night was rather grueling for the worried woman.

Clang! Gasp!

Just as she was about to go and make another cup of coffee, the lid of the metal coffin flew off and fell to the floor, as a black sludge-covered woman shot out with a loud gasp for oxygen.

"Oh, thank god!" Grace exclaimed as she rushed over and hugged her daughter without a care for the messy substance covering her body.

"Excuse me." Peter says as he joins the mother and daughter duo and starts wiping MJ's face so that she could open her eyes.

Heavy Breathing

MJ slowly caught her breath as Peter wiped all of the black gunk from her face.

"Hey there, beautiful." Peter smiles as he gets a clear look at her.

"I-I..." MJ starts to speak but she didn't have the lung capacity just yet. "...I love you too."

At that instant, Grace felt like a third wheel to her daughter's budding romance and backed up to give the two some space.

"Good to know." Peter smiled as he kissed her dirty black lips, uncaring as the used Elixir gets on his face. "Let's get you in the shower, shall we?"

Hearing Peter's obviously flirtatious invitation to bathe together, MJ nods with a small blush on her face.

Meanwhile, Grace watched the whole thing with a heated look on her face.

'Why couldn't Nick be like that?' She thought, imagining herself and Fury in their place.

While Grace was off in her own imagination, which is something she seems to have picked up from May, Peter opened a portal to his bathroom and carried MJ out of the metal coffin bridal style.

"We'll be back in a bit." Peter says over his shoulder as the portal closes behind them, leaving MJ's exhausted and caffeine ravaged mother in the living room alone, daydreaming about who knows what.

Chapter 174: MJ's Transformation

While sharing a hot and steamy shower with MJ, who couldn't fully control her body due to the recent procedure, Peter was sure to wash every corner of her body lovingly.

Of course, this embarrassed MJ to no end, but she certainly wasn't complaining.

Sadly, before the two love birds could get too ahead of themselves, Peter noticed something odd while cleaning his lovely girlfriend's arms.

"What's this?" Peter muttered as he found something that wasn't there before.

He spent many an hour studying her body, so Peter would be able to spot any differences fairly quickly.

MJ now has two small holes in her wrists, which matched the same holes that Peter had in the same location.

"Huh?" MJ looked down and saw what Peter was looking at.

Suddenly, as Peter was studying her wrists, MJ involuntarily discharged some web, which shot Peter square in the face, blocking his vision as it stuck to him like tape.

"Holy sh*t!" MJ exclaimed as she watched it all happen with her newly enhanced vision. "Oh my god. Are you okay?"

"Yeah..." Peter replies as he pulls the webs off with ease and tosses them to the side. "Congrats, you seem to have gotten my powers."

"Yeah, about that..." MJ says as she starts to explain what happened to her when she fell asleep.

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"Huh, so you met the Great Weaver too?" Peter says as they walk out of the shower and start drying off.

"Yeah, though she didn't tell me her name or title." MJ replies as they continue into his room, looking for clothes to wear. "She was really creepy..."

"I know, she was like that with me too." Peter says with a shrug, as he sits on his bed and watches MJ get dressed. 'I really love my life.'

Although MJ took good care of herself before this, after the procedure from last night, Peter could see some differences in his beautiful girlfriend's naked body.

First, she was maybe an inch taller.

Second, MJ's body was just all around tighter than before. A big reason for this newfound tightness was the thin layer of muscles that now appeared all over her body.

Though nobody would actually be able to notice them unless she exerted herself in some way.

Surprisingly, and to Peter's love and amazement, something else may have occurred during the process last night.

"MJ..." Peter says, drawing MJ's attention toward him. "Did your butt get bigger?"

"What?" MJ utters in surprise as she looks at a standing mirror in the corner and turns to get a good look at her backside. "Is it?"

Just as Peter thought, her butt was a bit thicker than before. Nothing too crazy but she most definitely had some more substance back there.

"Yeah, it's probably the muscles in your butt..." Peter says as he caught sight of her chest next. "I don't think that's the only thing either."

"Huh?" MJ muttered as she follows Peter's gaze to see what he was looking at.

Looking down at her breasts, MJ instantly noticed a change this time around.

Throughout her life, MJ was cursed with below-average-sized breasts. She didn't really mind, but seeing them gain a bit of plumpness was shocking to her.

She was a B cup only last night and now MJ seemed to be somewhere in the C cup range.

"But that's not related to muscle..." MJ says and turns to Peter for answers.

"Don't look at me." Peter says with a shrug. "I have no idea why your breasts would get bigger, though I certainly have no problem with it."

Seeing the perverted smirk on her boyfriend's face, MJ couldn't help but huff and turn away, guarding her breasts against his hungry eyes.

Though doing so only left her backside defenseless.

"I'm really happy you took the elixir..." Peter says as MJ could feel his gaze on her butt.

"I hate you right now..."

After MJ received her powers, the next two days were filled with May and Grace receiving theirs, though, like Ned, they only got Peter's super soldier abilities.

Of course, they didn't mind, as they were only in it for the beauty aspect, which did not disappoint.

Since the two of them didn't appear that old, as they took good care of themselves through skin care, hygiene, diet, etc., they didn't de-age as much as people like Erik and Charles.

The both of them already looked to be in their mid-twenties beforehand after all.

Though that doesn't mean the results weren't in their favor. Wrinkles disappeared, skin was cleared and tightened, slim muscles were formed, hair was rejuvenated, and much much more.

If before their procedures the two of them were thirty-five-year-olds that could pass themselves off as being in their twenties with some makeup and extreme care for their bodies, now they didn't need anything to look the part.

"I can't stop looking at myself..." May comments as she and Grace were stuck naked in front of a large mirror, gawking at themselves.

"My a*s has never been this tight before..." Grace says as she stands sideways to get a better look.

Meanwhile, in the living room.

"Do you think they're ever going to come back downstairs?" Peter asks MJ, who was sitting on his lap and flipping through the channels on the TV.

"It's probably going to be a few more hours." MJ says, knowing her mother very well. "Has Ned texted you back yet?"

"Yeah, his parents are still freaking out about everything and won't let him leave the house." Peter explains.

Ned was supposed to return a couple of days ago, as he wanted to see everyone else's transformations, but his parents were a bit more shocked by his sudden change than they expected.

First, Ned scared them by walking into the house in his new body, which made them think someone was robbing the place.

Then, after defusing the situation and explaining everything, his parents were both shocked and scared. Obviously, they were shocked by his drastic change, but they were scared for a much different reason.

The government.

What would happen to their son if some secret government agency wanted to take him and use him for experiments or other unsavory activities?

Although this train of thought wasn't wrong, as they live in a world full of people like this, it was mainly fueled by the many conspiracy theory shows and videos that Ned's parents watched daily.

So, now Ned is under house arrest until a good amount of time passes that can explain his drastic change, which is probably for the best.

Of course, Peter did not envy Ned's current situation one bit.

"He just got his powers and he can't even put them to use." MJ says, feeling sympathy for their friend.

"Yeah, it sucks but I can't say that I disagree with his parents." Peter says with a shrug.

...

A couple of hours later, both May and Grace came strutting downstairs in some new clothes, which looked to be older than their normal outfits.

"It's been so long since these jeans fit me!" May exclaimed as she and Grace entered the living room with an air of confidence.

"I'm glad everything worked out the way you wanted it." Peter says with a smile, enjoying their good mood.

Thankfully, May and Grace's change wasn't as drastic as Ned's, so they could pass their transformation off as simply changing their makeup style alongside new skin creams and hygiene products.

After cleaning up and enjoying each other's company, Grace went home via a portal, as she had work in the morning.

May had work as well, so she went off to bed with a radiant smile on her face, still happy about her new look.

That only left MJ and Peter, who had nothing to do tomorrow since it was summer vacation.

"Can we go and patrol the city?" MJ asks excitedly out of nowhere.

"Uhh, no." Peter denies, deflating her excitement in a single moment.

"Why not?" She asks while directing her best puppy-eyed expression toward him.

"Because you don't have a disguise and you haven't fully tested your powers out yet." Peter explains with a shake of his head. "I don't need you snapping some guy in half because you can't control your strength yet."

"Okay, then let's go and start testing!" MJ says as her excitement returns once again.

"Sigh, fine..." Peter says reluctantly, as he originally wanted to spend the rest of the night cuddled up in bed together.

With a wave of his hand, a portal appears, leading to a dark underground room, filled with all sorts of contraptions held together by webs.

"What is this place?" MJ asks as they step inside.

"My secret lair." Peter says as he walks over and dusts off some of the equipment. "I made all of this to test my powers when I first started. Now it's your turn, I guess."

Showing MJ what each machine did, Peter started her off on the bench press, where she nervously looked at the huge metal beams which were used as weights.

"Are you sure I can lift this?" She asks with a worried look.

"Yeah, just give it a try." Peter says as he stands nearby just in case.

Lifting the bar above her with ease, MJ's mouth drops wide open in shock as a smile blooms on her face.

"Good job." Peter says with a smile. "Looks like you need more weight though."

...

Hours later, when they tested everything from her strength to spider senses and wall-crawling, MJ turned to Peter with an important question.

"Peter, which name do you think sounds better?" MJ called out as she wiped some sweat from her brow. "Silk or Spider-Woman?"

Chapter 175: Silk!

"Silk or Spider-Woman?" MJ looks to Peter for an answer.

"Mmm..." Peter hums in thought. "If I had to choose, Silk sounds the coolest. Spider-Woman feels more like you just copied my name in a way."

"Alright, Silk it is." MJ says with a smirk, remembering the blacked-out hooded spider suit that her multiverse counterpart wore. "How do I get a superhero suit like yours? I want mine in black though..."

"Well, I can probably whip up something for you." Peter says after a second of thought.

"Really?!" MJ exclaims excitedly as she rushes over and grabs his arm.

"Yeah, just focus on getting your body under control for now. I'll work on making your suit in the meantime." Peter's words made MJ vibrate with excitement.

"How long will it take?" She asks, ready to make her big debut.

"I'll have it done when you're ready." Peter said, instantly taking the wind out of her sails.

"Fine..."

It only took MJ about a week to fully test out her body and get her newfound abilities under control.

As soon as she was up to Peter's standards, he portal'd her to his room to receive her promised reward.

"Where is it?!" MJ rushed through the portal with an exciting pep in her step.

It's been a week and all she could think about was her suit and her first patrol around the city.

"Hold on." Sighing at her behavior, Peter walked over to his closet and pulled out some black and white clothing.

"Is this it?!" MJ paces over and snatches the clothes from his hand.

As soon as her hand touched the suit, gold spell circles and runes covered every inch of the suit. After a moment, the suit was sucked up into MJ's hand and disappeared.

"Uhh... what happened?" She asks in shock, looking back and forth between Peter and her empty hand.

"The suit is bound to you now. Simply think of it and the suit will appear, like mine." Peter explains.

"Okay..." MJ mutters as she closes her eyes and concentrates on her new suit.

Instantly, the outfit she's wearing is replaced by a brand new black and white superhero suit with small red accents.

Seeing MJ looking down at her body in shock, Peter steps out of the way so she can use the tall mirror behind him.

"Oh my god..." MJ says in awe and wonder.

Her new spider suit is a mix between the Ghost-Spider and Silk suits. Everything below the shoulders is the Silk suit while the hood and mask are a black version of the Ghost-Spider suit. The mask has large white eyes with red outlines as well as a red design in the inner part of the hood.

[Add image if you want]

"So, did I do a good job?" Peter asks as he stands beside her, admiring his work.

"It's perfect..." MJ says in a daze.

"That's not all though. Your suit is pretty much a copy of mine. I just re-did everything my teacher did to mine." Peter says.

"What does your suit do?" She asks, tearing her eyes away from the mirror. "I don't think you've ever told me."

"Well, It's made and enchanted to be resistant to most things, like water, fire, tearing, cutting, etc. Though don't get too cocky. Enough damage would be able to break through the suit. If it is torn or damaged, the suit will regenerate back to new after a short time. Remember, It's made to last, not as a sort of protective armor. Don't rely on it to stop every attack." Peter explains.

"Okay, anything else?" MJ nods like an attentive student.

"Yes, just one more thing." Peter says as he takes out his phone and snaps a quick picture of her. "Look at this."

Peter turns the phone to her, showing MJ a picture of the room without her in it at all.

"The suit is invisible to all cameras, but you can turn that off and on at will. Just think of turning it off." Peter explains.

MJ does as she was told and feels a slight vibration run through the suit. As the vibration disappears, Peter takes another picture and shows it to her.

This time she was completely visible.

"Use that function when you're leaving to patrol and returning home." Peter explains his use of the anti-camera function. "That way no one can track where you live and find out your identity."

"Wow, this is amazing." MJ praises as she takes the suit off with a single thought, returning her normal clothes.

"Ready to get out there?" Peter asks, throwing MJ for a loop as she didn't expect him to say that.

"Yeah, but are you sure I'm ready?" MJ asks, as he has been fairly protective of her during the past week.

"Sure, the only way to learn now is by doing." Peter says with a shrug.

Over the week, Peter has taught her some hand-to-hand combat, but she was still new and extremely inexperienced.

Though that wasn't a problem for people with spider abilities. MJ would be able to dodge any attack with her enhanced body and spider senses, so no normal person would stand a chance.

"We can work on your combat skills over time, but until then you might as well get out there and learn through experience." Peter says as a wide smile forms on MJ's face.

She thought that Peter would hold her back for a while longer, but that didn't seem to be the case.

"Can we go now?" She asks as her suit appears on her body once again.

"Sure." Peter says with a knowing smile.

"I don't know if I can do this..." MJ mutters nervously as she looks over the edge of a tall skyscraper.

"What happened to all of that excitement and confidence from earlier?" Peter smiles behind her.

"I think that I left it at home." MJ says as she stands frozen at the edge of the roof.

"Well, let's go get it." Peter says as he reaches forward and places a hand on her back.

"Peter! What are you doing!?" MJ yells in fear.

"Just giving you a little nudge." Peter says in her ear as he pushes her forward. 'Sometimes the baby birds need to be thrown out of the nest, so they can learn to fly.'

"PETER!!!" MJ screams as she falls forward and plummets off of the tall skyscraper.

Standing at the edge, Peter watches MJ flail for a moment before leaping off behind her.

Pulling his arms to his sides, Peter fell face-first and caught up to MJ, who was still freaking out.

"Swing!" Peter yelled over to her as he pointed to his wrist. "You can do it!"

Of course, Peter would save her if she needed it, but he would only do so at the last second.

Until then he would wait for her to save herself.

Hearing Peter's words and seeing the concrete floor getting closer and closer, MJ raised a hand up over her head and shot a web from her wrist.

Sadly, she didn't aim it anywhere, so instead of sticking to a building, the web shot into the sky and fell with her only moments later.

"F*ck!" MJ yelled as she continued falling.

"Good try!" Peter smiled as he saw the ground getting a bit too close for comfort.

With a wave of his hand, a portal opened below them. Falling through it, both Peter and MJ came out 800 feet higher.

When MJ saw the portal appear, she thought it was over, but that seemed to be a misconception on her part.

Peter merely bought her some more time.

"Alright, try again!" Peter calls out as they continue falling.

"I hate you!" MJ yells back as she glares at Peter.

"I love you too!" Peter says with a smirk.

...

Growing used to the feeling of falling, MJ looked at her surroundings and found that she was surrounded by buildings on all sides.

'I can do this...' MJ thought as she pointed her wrist ahead and shot a web.

A white line shot from her wrist and connected to the building, causing a smile to appear under MJ's mask.

"Good, now grab the web and swing!" Peter gives her some pointers as he shoots a web at the same building as well.

Doing as she's told, MJ tightened her fist around the web and swung like Tarzan, narrowly missing the packed streets of New York City.

Below them, the crowded sidewalks filled with people watched and recorded as Spider-Man alongside another unknown person swung lowly overhead.

"Good job! Now keep up!" Peter calls out as he chains his webs to maneuver around the city.

...

After sloppily swinging for a few blocks, MJ was starting to get the hang of Peter's preferred form of transportation.

In fact, she loved it.

"Woohoo!" MJ laughed madly as she swung behind Peter, finding the experience similar to a rollercoaster.

Hearing his girlfriend's happy screams behind him, Peter smirked and found a place to land on a nearby rooftop.

Landing perfectly with a flourish, Peter turned to see MJ miss the swing and hit the side of the building at full speed.

Bang

"Okay, maybe she needs more practice..." Peter muttered as MJ wall crawled up the building.

"I heard that!"

As MJ climbed to the rooftop with a huff, a loud alarm could be heard from down the street followed by some automatic gunfire.

Before Peter could say anything, MJ leaped off of the building and swung toward the danger without a second thought.

'She's going to be the death of me...' Peter thought as he swung off behind her.

Chapter 176: Iron Man 3?

Following after MJ, Peter pulled back enough to watch as she handled whatever situation was going on down the street.

'This is a good time to test her, I suppose.' Peter thought as they arrived at the location of the alarm and automatic gunfire.

Five armed gunmen hid behind the large pillars in front of a bank as they shot at police, who surrounded the building and cut off all chances for them to escape.

Each criminal had duffle bags over their shoulder, which were most likely filled with whatever they robbed from the bank.

As for the police, they hid behind the cover of their cars and returned fire toward the five bank robbers. A few cops have already been shot, which wasn't a good sign, though no one seems to have died yet.

Taking a quick look for any hostages, Peter found the bank to be completely empty inside and out. Well, besides the armed thieves.

'No wonder they started shooting...!' Peter thought as the gunfire continued. 'They had no hostages to trade, so they couldn't escape peacefully.'

Taking a closer look at the door, Peter saw a closed sign hanging from the window, explaining exactly why there weren't any hostages for them to take.

'This should be a perfect opportunity for her.' Peter thought as he sat on a rooftop across the street with his legs dangling off the edge.

Just as another cop took a bullet to the shoulder, a black shadow swung over the cop cars in her and shot some expertly aimed webs, which sealed the gunshot wounds of the few policemen that were hit.

"Who the f*ck is that!?" One of the robbers yells as he turns his gunfire toward the new arrival.

"Did Spider-Man change his look?" A cop asks in confusion.

"Isn't that a woman?" A female officer questioned as she noticed some womanly curves.

"That should do for now." MJ muttered as her spider senses started blaring.

Acting quickly, MJ shot a web at the bank and yanked it, dodging the rain of assault rifle bullets that came flying her way.

"That's not how you should greet a lady!" MJ yells as she soars toward the man that shot at her feet first.

Before anyone could react, the bottom of MJ's boot was planted into one of the robber's faces, launching the man backward.

Crash Shatter!

Flying off of his feet, the man broke through the bank's glass window and fell to the floor unconscious, surrounded by shards of broken glass.

"What the?" One of the armed men grunted in confusion as he got a good look at MJ. "You're not Spider-Man?!"

"It's a girl?" The man beside him asks in confusion.

As soon as they noticed that they weren't dealing with Spider-Man, and instead it was a woman, the armed men seemed to calm down and relax a bit.

"What are you? Spider-Mans bitch?" One of them asks as they all laugh and aim their guns in her direction.

Luckily for them, the large concrete pillars were blocking the police still, so they didn't have to worry about getting shot, as long as they kept behind cover of course.

"Yeah, and I'm about to turn you four into my b*tches..." MJ threatens as she felt disgusted by their lingering gazes on her body.

Though situations like this were bound to happen, as her suit is tight and showed off the contours of her body very well.

'Did she just admit to being my b*tch?' Peter thought as he heard and saw everything from his vantage point. 'Not that I mind...'

Just as MJ made those dangerous remarks, the robbers didn't hold back anymore and opened fire in her direction.

Kicking off the ground, MJ launched herself into the concrete overhang of the bank, missing the bullets with relative ease.

"Stand still you little sl*t!" One of the robbers yelled as they tried to follow her movements with their rifles.

Not standing still for too long, MJ kicked off of the roof, continuously dodging bullets as she shot a web at one of the gunmen.

As the web stuck to his chest, MJ pulled hard, picking the man up off the ground and sending him into the concrete roof above.

"Aaahhh!" He yelled in fright and smacked into the overhang.

Bang

Instantly falling unconscious from the impact, his body hung from a thin web, dangling him from the bank like a holiday decoration.

Continuing to the rest of the armed men, MJ took them down one by one as if she were dealing with toddlers.

Stringing the knocked-out thieves up and leaving a quick message behind for the police and media, MJ waved to the surrounding police before swinging away.

...

"Did I do a good job?" MJ asks expectantly as she arrives at Peter's location.

"I would give you a B+ for your first time." Peter hands out her grade after a moment's thought.
"Good work."

"Huh? Only a B?" MJ asks incredulously. "I plugged the wounds of those cops! That should at least bring it up to an A!"

"No, you let them shoot too much for that." Peter shrugs off her complaints uncaringly. "You have to remember that we live in a very crowded city. Stray bullets can easily hit civilians, especially when they're high caliber bullets like today."

Peter learned this lesson himself fairly early on when some stray bullets tore through a nearby apartment building and almost killed a little girl in her bed.

The girl's mother came running outside just as Peter was wrapping things up for the police, and tore into him as well as the criminals for what almost happened to her daughter.

"..." upon hearing this story, MJ's former accomplished feeling faded away.

She knew at that moment that being a hero was more than just fighting bad guys and acting cool. It was about protecting people as best as you could.

"So, you're my b*tch, huh?" Peter tried to lighten the mood as he smirked under his mask.

Pow!

Though he received a hard punch on the shoulder in return.

"Ugh..." Peter grunted as he rubbed his shoulder. 'Maybe giving her superpowers was a bad idea?'

Across the street, the Police rushed forward and arrived at the front of the bank with their weapons drawn and ready to fire.

They didn't have a good view of what happened, so they had to be careful in their approach nonetheless.

Arriving where the criminals took cover, the police were amused to find the bank robbers hanging from the roof, though that wasn't the only thing that caught their eyes.

Webs covered the front doors and windows of the bank, spelling out something in an intricate design.

[❖SILK❖]

-Long Flashback End-

(Back to the 5-month time skip)

With those in his life now super-powered up to protect themselves, Peter was able to sleep soundly. They can now defend themselves even if the enchantments he placed on them were to ever fail.

'Though I hope that time never comes...' Peter thought as he drove to school in an old rusted 1969 Ford Mustang Boss 429 with MJ in his passenger seat.

The car is in terrible shape at the moment, as Peter just got the engine running last night, but soon enough it will be in pristine condition.

Arriving at the school parking lot, the car's tailpipe shot out a small cloud of black smoke as they parked, scaring off any nearby students.

"Eh... I'll have to work on that." Peter muttered as he and MJ avoided the smoke on the way inside.

It's been about 2 months since school started, and everyone was shocked when a young Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson strolled in on the first day with text books in hand.

At first, everyone thought there was a new transfer student, but when it came time for attendance to be called in their first class, the buff muscle head answered to a shocking name.

Ned Leeds.

This shocked everyone, even the teacher, though no one was more flabbergasted than Flash Thompson.

The former bully himself, who would always find a way to mention Ned's weight in the conversation now found himself staring in jealousy at that same person.

It was an amusing day at school to say the very least.

Although there is now a rumor floating around that Ned does steroids, that's better than people thinking he was a meta-human.

Of course, he would have been treated well thanks to Peter's influence on mutant stigma in this world, but it still wasn't worth the trouble that it would bring Ned and his family.

Other than school, Ned has been antsy to get out in the field like MJ, who patrols the city on her own at this point.

When he saw news of the new hero Silk appearing, Ned wanted nothing more than to join his friends.

Sadly he was locked in his house at that time, and even now Peter won't allow him to have his debut.

"How come MJ gets to fight crime and I don't?" Ned whined like a child when Peter stopped him earlier in the school year.

"Ned, MJ has my spider powers, so she has a built-in warning system along with a bunch of other abilities." Peter explained as he admired Ned's best effort at a superhero suit.

It was basically a sweatsuit with an S painted on its chest alongside a ski mask to cover his identity and a pair of warm winter gloves.

The worst part was the repurposed sheets that were now being used as a cape...

"She can dodge bullets with ease." Peter says as his voice turns more sympathetic. "You need more training than her and a better suit..."

"Hey! What's wrong with my suit!"

After that, the conversation degraded into Ned defending his 'work of art' as he called it, though at the end of the day he understood Peter's point.

Since then, Peter has spent a bit of his spare time training Ned how to fight, which was moving slowly as Ned never fought anyone in his life.

As Peter walked into School, his phone buzzed. Taking it out, he found a news alert in his feed.

[Ten Rings Bomb TLC Chinese Theatre?]

"Huh? Isn't that in the city?"

Chapter 177: Mandarin

[Ten Rings Bomb TLC Chinese Theatre?]

"Huh? Isn't that in the city?" Peter muttered as he came to a realization. 'Is it time for Iron Man 3 already?'

"Peter?" MJ asks as she stops alongside him. "What's wrong?"

"Hmm?" Peter looked up and showed her the article on his phone "There was a bombing last night."

"That's horrible..." MJ says as she reads how many people were injured and killed in the incident. "We should have been there."

Hearing her say that, Peter knew that he had to put a stop to that line of thinking right away, as it wasn't healthy.

"Come here." Peter pulls her aside and out of hearing range of the surrounding students.

"What?" MJ asks in confusion.

"Listen, we can't stop every bad thing in the world or even this city from happening." Peter says as he sees a conflicted look appear on MJ's face.

"We can try..." MJ counters.

"Yes, but never feel guilty about incidents like this. We can't always be in the right place at the right time, ready to stop whatever catastrophe or crime that's ever going to happen. It's not possible." Peter explains.

"I wasn't feeling guilty..." MJ lies through her teeth.

"Yes, you were." Peter says and before she could argue further, the bell rang signaling everyone to get to their classes.

"Let's just go to class..." MJ says as she storms off.

As the hallway emptied, Peter took out his phone and hit a button.

"Jarvis, get me everything you can on the bombing that took place this morning." Peter orders.

"Yes, sir."

"Some people call me a terrorist, I consider myself a teacher. America, are you ready for another lesson?" Peter watched a video of a bearded and balding white man in an ornate robe giving a speech on his phone.

[Insert picture of the Fake Mandarin here]

"In 1864 in Sand Creek Colorado the U.S. military waited until the friendly Cheyenne braves all went hunting, waited to attack and slaughter their families that were left behind, and claim their land. Thirty-nine hours ago the Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait was attacked." Looking into the camera for a brief moment, the Mandarin paused before continuing.

"I did that." He admitted easily. "A quaint military church filled with wives and children, of course. The soldiers were out on maneuvers, the braves were away so to speak. President Obama, you continue to resist my attempts to educate you, sir. Now, you've missed me again. You know who I am, you don't know where I am, and you'll never see me coming..."

Peter sat at a lunch table with MJ beside him and Ned sat across with a tray piled high with food.

"I still can't get used to seeing you eat so much, Ned." MJ commented.

"I need it..." Ned shrugs as he starts stuffing his face.

Peter just finished watching the most recent video released by the Mandarin, as he waited to see if another one like it would surface, taking credit for the recent bombing in his city.

'I wonder if the real Mandarin has found out about this yet?' Peter wondered.

The man in the videos, which have just started cycling around the news, was nothing more than a failing drug-addicted actor, who was hired to play a part by a man named Aldrich Killian.

Doctor Aldrich Killian is the founder and CEO of Advanced Idea Mechanics or AIM for short.

When Tony refused to join in his research, Killian joined up with Maya Hansen, who happens to be an old one night stand of Tony's. Together they developed Extremis, an advanced form of genetic manipulation using nanotechnology, which was originally created by Ms. Hansen before Killian even joined her.

Extremis was built to grant the human body the ability to heal and regenerate from physical damage, deformities, and even psychological damage. This also includes the regrowth of severed limbs in a very short time span, various physical enhancements as well as an exothermic ability.

Heat manipulation.

However, the subjects whose bodies rejected the treatment, which was pretty much all of them, would sooner or later explode due to a glitch in the Extremis code.

In time, Killian amassed a group of Extremis-enhanced soldiers under his command, as he would target disabled soldiers for illegal human experiments and later hire them as assassins and bodyguards, which he would use to further his and AIMs standing in the world.

It was easy pickings, as these soldiers would feel beyond indebted to Killian for helping them. In their minds, the army abandoned them, so they would rather join their savior than return there.

He would save his lab rats at their lowest point, turn them into exclusive soldiers, use them for personal gain, and then blame their inevitable fiery deaths on the Ten Rings.

An easy target to use as a smokescreen for his activities, though this action would soon enough draw the attention of the real Ten Rings and they certainly wouldn't be happy.

Especially the Mandarin, who wouldn't take this disrespect lying down for long.

'Truthfully, I could do nothing and let the Mandarin take his revenge.' Peter thought as he and MJ drove home after school. 'Though it's probably best to remove all Extremis research from the playing field...'

If he were to let another group takedown Killian and AIM, then they would likely take all of the Extremis research and materials for themselves, which could cause problems in the future.

'Looks like I'll be getting a new upgrade soon enough...' Peter thought as he dropped MJ off at her house and drove home.

Of course, he would have to work on Extremis and remove the small glitch that causes the explosions to take place, but that shouldn't take him and Tony too long to figure out.

'Maybe getting the original creator on our side would speed up the process...' Peter wondered.

"Sir, I've compiled all the information and camera footage of today's bombing." Jarvis' voice projects from Peter's phone as he pulls into his driveway.

Once again, as his new rust bucket slowed to a stop, the tailpipe shot out a dark black cloud of smoke, drawing the attention of some of his neighbors.

"Good work, Jarvis." Peter says as he ignores everything and walks inside. "Send everything to my laptop."

"Sent, sir."

Spending over an hour going over the information and footage provided by Jarvis, Peter found some interesting information that would probably be overlooked by any law enforcement officials performing an investigation on the incident.

First, the bombing happened last night for a reason.

The CEO of a competitor to AIM was attending an event with his family in the theater, which shows a clear motive for this to happen.

"I'm sure that if I look close enough, a lot of these recent Mandarin attacks will show a clear motive like this..." Peter thought out loud as he played a video on his laptop.

A grainy video from a surveillance camera across the street showed the front side entrance of the theater. Seconds into the video playing, the windows and doors of the building broke open in a fiery explosion.

Rewinding before the explosion took place, Peter zoomed in on a certain window, where the silhouette of a man appeared. Putting the video into slow motion and pressing play, Peter watched as the man in the window began to glow, lighting up the window before the inevitable explosion destroyed the place.

'Yep, that's definitely an Extremis explosion.' Peter thought as he hit a button on his phone.

"Yes, sir?" Jarvis asks.

"I need you to compile similar information about every recent Mandarin attack. As long as the Mandarin took credit for it, I want to know everything. We can expand to other incidents afterward." Peter orders.

"On it, sir."

That night, while Jarvis worked hard to get Peter what he asked for, another Mandarin video was released, where he dramatically took credit for the bombing in New York.

As the video ended, Peter's phone started going off.

ring ring ring...

"Yo." Peter answered as he lay in bed with MJ sleeping soundly beside him.

"So what's going on with the Mandarin? Fury is getting calls from the President, asking for help with the Ten Rings. They don't seem to have any leads." Tony's voice sounds through the phone.

"As I'm sure you know, Jarvis is compiling information for me. Once I have everything, I'll call a meeting and we'll take care of it." Peter replies easily.

"You know something, don't you?" Tony asks as he could sense that Peter was holding something back.

"Yeah, but I need more information to be sure." Peter said as MJ shifts in her sleep and uses his shoulder as a pillow.

"Come on, tell me..." Tony whined like a child as he started complaining about keeping secrets.

'So annoying...' Peter looked between his beautiful girlfriend and his phone before making the right decision and simply hanging up.

Putting his phone on mute, Peter curled up in bed with MJ in his arms. His phone constantly lit up with missed calls as he drifted off to sleep.

Chapter 178: Silk Meets Fury

Waking up the next morning, Peter was welcomed to the world by a phone full of missed calls and a large file full of information on his laptop, courtesy of Jarvis.

Staying in bed to enjoy the company of his sleeping girlfriend, who was practically glued to his side, Peter opened up his laptop and started parsing through everything.

About an hour passed as Peter was gathering information and MJ started to stir from her sleep.

"Hmm..." MJ stretches like a cat and wipes the sleep from her eyes as she looks up to find Peter awake and typing away on his laptop. "What are you doing?"

Pushing the covers off, MJ reveals her naked upper body as she moves to get a better look.

"I'm reviewing the recent Mandarin attacks." Peter says as he presses play, showing her an explosion that took place in Washington DC.

"Are we going after him?" She asks expectantly.

"..." Peter was about to turn her down, as he was going to handle this with the Avengers, but that was completely ruined when he saw her puppy dog eyes pointed in his direction.

"Please..." She pleads as she presses her bare body against his.

"Fine..." Peter gives in with a sigh.

"Yes!" MJ started celebrating, though it was a bit too early for that.

"But you'll need to pay for what you started..." Peter says as he puts his laptop aside and pulls MJ onto his lap.

Instantly, she could feel something hard resting between her legs. Thankfully, it's Saturday so they can spend the morning however they like.

...

Hours later, Peter finished his work and called a council meeting at the tower.

"Are you ready?" Peter asked as he and MJ were suited up and about to head out.

Pacing back and forth in front of him, MJ was nervous about her first encounter with the Avengers.

Peter has sort of shielded her from anything Avengers related ever since she started her own hero gig, as he wanted her to just stick to the friendly neighborhood Spider-Man stuff, like saving people from burning buildings and other everyday crimes and catastrophes.

Though there was one other very big reason why he kept her away from the Avengers, even while they questioned him about New York's new spider related hero.

MJ's father, Nick Fury.

"What if he can tell that it's me?" MJ asks, referring to her father.

"Well, then we have some explaining to do, don't we?" Peter says with a smirk. "Though I doubt he'll notice."

"Alright, let's go..." MJ says and psyched herself up as she waits for Peter to open a portal.

"If you want, you can back out." Peter offers since he can see how nervous she is.

"No, I want to help fight the Mandarin!" MJ states resolutely.

"Okay, if you say so..." Peter nods and opens a portal. "Ladies first."

When a portal opened in the council room of the Tower, everyone thought that it would be Peter, who just so happened to arrive late.

Though just as the other council members were about to complain about waiting for so long, an unexpected individual came strolling on through.

"Huh?" Tony grunted in surprise as MJ came walking out of the portal. "M... Silk, what are you doing here?"

Like the idiot he is, Tony almost leaked MJ's name, which wouldn't have been good, to say the least.

In the past few months, MJ has met with Tony a few times, so he knows that she is Silk. Of course, he plagued Peter with questions as to how he was able to give her his powers, but Peter kept his mouth shut for the time being.

He would tell Tony about the Resurrection Elixir when he had more dragon bones to spare. Then Tony would be the next person to receive it as well.

"Silk, I see Spider-Man decided to stop hiding you away from us." Charles says with a welcoming smile.

"Who said I was hiding her?" Peter denies everything as he steps through behind her.

"You said that if we tried to contact or bother Silk you would throw all of your work onto us until we were buried in paperwork for months." Erik says dryly.

Hearing that, MJ turned to look at Peter questioningly.

"I don't know what he's talking about. He used to be a villain. Don't believe a word he says." Peter continues denying everything.

"Whatever, let's just get down to business." MJ says and sits next to Tony, as she feels more comfortable around him compared to the other Avengers.

As she sat down, MJ peeked over at her father, who she hadn't seen in a few months. Although she worried that he would recognize her voice, Fury didn't seem to react at all.

"I agree, what's this all about?" Her father asks as his gaze turns toward Peter.

"Jarvis, play the video." Peter says as a large TV instantly plays the footage of the most recent Mandarin bombing.

Just as he did yesterday, the video zoomed in and showed the figure of the man in the window brightening and exploding.

"Huh, that was odd." Tony mutters.

"I know, but it gets even weirder." Peter says as the video changes, showing two other similar instances.

In each of them, security footage picked up a glimpse of a bright human figure only seconds before a huge explosion.

"Is it an exploding meta-human?" Erik asks with an interested look.

"I don't know for sure, but there's more." Peter says as the image on the screen changes to the AIM logo alongside a picture of Aldrich Killian. "A lot of these attacks can be traced back to him, Aldrich Killian."

"He looks familiar..." Tony says thoughtfully.

"His Organization, AIM is based in the city so you've likely met before. He basically runs a scientific research and development agency funded by the government." Peter explains.

"Okay, so what do these attacks have to do with him?" MJ asks, surprising everyone that she didn't already know. "What? He doesn't tell me everything..."

"In each of these three attacks alone, Killian had something to gain from an explosion going off." Peter says as the images cycle through, showing each explosion. "Here, a Senator who always spoke out against Killian and AIM was killed in Washington, and here, a woman who lead multiple protests against AIM was killed in a coffee shop in Los Angeles. Finally, on the most recent incident, a man that was competing with AIM for a very lucrative government contract was blown up in a theater with his family."

As Peter says this, the picture changes to a family photo, showing a man and wife sitting with two young children on each of their laps.

"These are the only few incidents where I was able to find a glimpse of the suicide bombers. In almost every Mandarin bombing, I can find links like this leading back to AIM and Killian." Peter explains fully, shocking everyone.

"How has no one noticed this?" Tony asks incredulously.

"Because we live in America and when we hear the word terrorist, we tend to stop investigating and start hunting." Peter says with a shrug.

"Do you think he's using the Ten Rings as a smokescreen?" Fury asks.

"Either that or they're working together." Peter says with a shrug. "Though, I would like to point out how shockingly white the Mandarin seems to be for the leader and founder of a terrorist group that's supposed to be from Asia."

"I did find that odd as well..." Fury agreed with a nod.

"We should put together a team and find Killian before another attack like this happens again." MJ says, ready to get out there.

"I agree, but we need to find him first." Peter says as Tony scrolls on his cell phone.

"Oh! I knew he sounded familiar." Tony says as he holds out his phone, showing a contact by the name of Aldrich Killian. "His number is saved in my phone."

"How can you not remember him, when the guy is in your contacts..." MJ asked with a roll of her eyes. "Do you have dementia?"

"I was probably blackout drunk." Tony says as though it was a normal occurrence.

"So, that only leaves half of your waking life as the possible times you could have met Killian?" Peter asks sarcastically, poking fun at Tony's alcoholism.

"I'm not that bad..."

Chapter 179: Spooked

"Call Killian and set a meeting." Peter says after a moment of thought.

"What am I supposed to say? I can't even remember the guy..." Tony asks as his finger hovers over the call button.

"Hmm..." Peter hummed as he came to a realization. "What are we doing? You don't schedule your own meetings. You can barely take care of yourself."

"Hey!" Tony shouted in indignation.

"Jarvis, please contact Tony's caregiver and have her set up a meeting between Aldrich Killian and Tony." Peter instructs.

"I'm informing Miss Potts as we speak." Jarvis answers, knowing exactly who Peter was talking about.

"..." Tony looked slightly embarrassed.

"Make sure that she doesn't mention anything about the Avengers or Iron Man. Make it sound like Tony has a project that Killian would be interested in. If we can get him to come to the tower, then that would be the best scenario possible." Peter explains.

"What if he sees through our little ploy?" Erik asks.

"Then we go searching for him at his and every AIM-related property." Peter says with a shrug. "He can't hide for long."

"Miss Potts is calling his number as we speak." Jarvis says as security camera footage from the lower floors of the tower appears, showing a live image of Pepper.

A ringing sound played through the speakers as Pepper moved the phone to her ear.

"Hello? Who's this?" A man answers as the ringing stops.

"Hello, is this Aldrich Killian?" Pepper asks in business mode.

"Yes, who might this be?" Killian replies affirmatively.

"Pepper Potts with Stark Industries." She reveals what seemed to surprise Killian.

"Huh? What can I do for you? It's been over ten years since I've seen Stark." He asks with an upset tilt to his voice.

Killian attended the Bern 2000 conference on New Year's Eve, 1999 in Switzerland to present his think tank, Advanced Idea Mechanics, when he met Tony for the first and only time.

He was overjoyed upon meeting his idol, Tony Stark, and expressed being a fan of his work. Soon enough, Killian asked for Stark's support in his project, only to be shunned and ignored by the latter in favor of paying attention to the beautiful Maya Hansen.

After enough insistence, Tony gave in and said he would meet Killian on the roof of the building to talk, but sadly he never showed up.

Killian would later learned that Tony ditched him in order to bed a woman. The same woman that later came to work alongside him.

As New Years approached, Killian waited hours on the roof alone for his hero to arrive, thinking that Tony could be running late, as he is a very popular and busy man.

Though that train of thought slowly faded away until he realized that Tony had deliberately ignored his proposition.

Humiliated and depressed, he peaked over the edge of the building and briefly contemplated committing suicide. This scenario reminded Killian of the hellish years he had spent barely surviving high school bullies.

Though in the end, he didn't have the courage to take the leap.

Afterward, Killian's lonesome presence on the roof caused him to relish in his state of anonymity, in which he decided to work on his own and create an expansive and covert business for himself, AIM.

"What did you do to this guy, Tony?" Charles noticed the anger in his voice, though he wasn't the only one.

"Why does it have to be me that did something?" Tony asks as everyone looks at him unbelievably.
"..."

"Well, Mr. Stark wants to set a meeting between the two of you at your earliest convenience."
Pepper explains.

"The great Tony Stark wants a meeting with a plebeian like me?" Killian asks with a heavy dose of sarcasm. "What does he want? I'm afraid that I don't have any star-struck women for him to take advantage of, nor do I have any female family members that he can drag to bed."

"Wow, he really hates you..." MJ says as she looks at Tony, wondering what he could have done.

"..." Tony felt uncomfortable as he couldn't remember who this person was or why he is being hated so much.

"That sounds like Tony... I apologize for any incident that may have occurred in the past." Pepper apologizes for Tony on reflex, as she has grown used to doing this since her first day on the job.
"Though from my understanding, this is an official meeting between Stark Industries and AIM."

"No offense Miss Potts, but tell Stark to shove his meeting up his a*s." Killian says crudely and uncaringly. "There was a time that I would have gladly met and worked with him, but those times are long gone."

Before Pepper could even say a word of reply, Killian hung up the phone, abruptly ending the conversation. Looking up at the security camera, Pepper shrugged with an expression that said 'I tried'.

As the TV went black, everyone's gazes turned to Tony, who sat there with a stumped look on his face.

"Don't look at me..." Tony sighs in exasperation. "Obviously, I did something to hurt his feelings, but I have no idea what that might be."

"It sounds like he wanted to work with you." MJ says her thoughts.

"And you did something to ruin it." Peter says with a nod as he turns to the TV. "Jarvis, did you track the call?"

"No, sir." Jarvis replies negatively. "The location was constantly scrambling to different areas around the world."

"Alright, then it's time for plan C." Peter says surprising everyone in the room.

"We're already on plan C?" MJ asks in confusion.

"Yep, Jarvis get me a list of every property owned by both Aldrich Killian and AIM." Peter orders.

"One moment, sir..." Jarvis says as he goes silent.

...

Minutes later, a long list of properties appeared on the screen.

"List compiled, sir." Jarvis says.

"Good work..." Peter says as he looks over the list, which turned out to be much longer than he originally thought. "While we deal with this, Jarvis, I need you to do your best to track Killian and

anyone that works alongside him. Also, be on the lookout for any facilities that could be related to AIM but weren't registered in their name."

"I'll do my best, sir." Jarvis replies and gets back to work.

Going over the names, Peter splits them up based on their vicinity to each other, creating five separate lists.

"Okay, we'll break into teams headed by each of us and start hitting these properties immediately." Peter explains as he hands over a list to each council member. "Feel free to recruit any of the Avengers for help and build your own team."

"I'll take Silk." Fury says as he snatches his list and walks to the door, waiting there for her to follow.

'Does he know?' Peter and MJ thought at the same exact time.

Peter didn't really mind if Fury figures it out, which is why he didn't go the extra mile to disguise MJ's voice.

He knew that sooner or later, Fury would need to know about their relationship and hero personas. Though the question is did he figure it out, or is he just trying to investigate the newest hero in town?

"Uhh... I'm not an Avenger." MJ tried to weasel out of going along with her father.

"No, it's okay." Peter says, smirking under his mask the entire time. "Go ahead."

Peter knew that he was currently playing with fire, but he just couldn't help himself. It was too entertaining of a scenario for him to let pass.

Receiving a short look from MJ, who didn't know how to refuse anymore, Peter watched in silence as she reluctantly follows her father out of the room.

"That was a risky move..." Tony whispers as he passes Peter on his way to go and form his own team.

'Yeah, but it's interesting and she'll have to work with Fury at some point.'

"...tell Stark to shove his meeting up his a*s." A tan white man who appeared to be in his thirties says as he admired the view from one of his many penthouse apartments.

He has slicked back perfectly kept blonde hair and wore a form fitting Armani suit alongside golden rings and an expensive looking watch.

[Insert picture of Aldrich Killian here]

Ending the call, Killian stared at the city in thought for a moment before turning around. Behind him stood two armed guards, each of them enhanced by the Extremis formula.

"We're leaving." Killian orders as he had a bad feeling about his recent call. "Bring the cars around and call in more men. We need to up my security."

Chapter 180: Father & Daughter's Day Out

-MJ POV-

Following behind her father, MJ did her best to keep her mouth shut. She knew that he picked her for a reason and was annoyed with Peter for agreeing to all of this.

"Do you have any abilities that I should know about?" Fury asks as he sends out some texts to gather a few more team members. "Other than the ones your boyfriend has, I mean."

"Not really, no." MJ answers curtly and doesn't bother speaking any further.

"Alright..." Fury practically grunts as he stashed his phone away. "Let's go."

"Is it just us?" MJ asks.

"No, the rest of the team will meet us at the first location." Fury says as they step into an elevator, which closes and shoots down to the garage floor below the building.

The car ride to the first location was awkward, to say the least. Fury wasn't much of a talker, to begin with, but his silence felt even more uncomfortable than normal because of MJ's predicament.

She had this unexplainable feeling that he knew who she was, or at least that he had a hunch, but wasn't saying anything for some odd reason.

"How did you meet Spider-Man?" Fury asks, which only strengthened her suspicions.

"..." MJ didn't know what to say, so she kept quiet and just looked out of the window.

"He gave you your powers, correct?" Fury kept fishing for information.

'Maybe he doesn't know?' MJ thought as he kept asking questions related to her powers and relationship with Peter.

As they arrived at an AIM facility in downtown New York, MJ was starting to doubt herself. For all she knew, Fury knew or he didn't, but if he did then he hid it extraordinarily well.

When Fury pulled up across the street and parked the car, the backdoors immediately opened, and in came both Black Widow and Hawkeye, who took a seat behind them.

"We've scouted the building and found an abnormal amount of security." Natasha informs them.

"From armed guards to cameras and motion scanners. This place has it all and a lot of it." Clint goes on to explain.

"Then they must be hiding something..." MJ says as she momentarily forgets about her secret identity troubles and enters hero mode.

"Yeah, but what?" Fury asks rhetorically as he opens the door and steps out. "Silk, let's go and say hello."

Stepping out of the car followed by MJ, Fury turns his attention to the two sitting in the backseat.

"You two sneak in while we distract them. Snoop around and get me some information. You know the drill." Fury says as he strolls across the street with a fairly popular superhero at his back.

Needless to say, they drew attention to themselves almost immediately. Fury looked like the bald main character of an action movie with his trench coat and pistol holster underneath, while MJ was all over the news since her debut.

As soon as the guards noticed their arrival, they called it out on their radios and set a perimeter, drawing their guns preemptively just in case.

"This is a restricted area! I'm going to have to ask you to walk the other way..." one guard calls out as they all aim in the father and daughter's direction.

"No." Fury says as he struts over, unafraid of the guns being pointed in his direction. "This building and everyone inside is now under investigation for terrorism. Lower your weapons and comply."

"Under investigation by who?" One of them who seemed to be in charge asks.

"..." Fury reaches into his trench coat, which spooked the guards as they got ready to fire. "It's my badge..."

Hearing this, they held their fire as Fury pulled a black leather badge from his coat pocket, which held an ID card with his name and picture.

[AVENGERS: Nicholas Fury]

"Avengers?!" One of the guards asks in confusion and fright, though the man in charge merely grimaced at the ID.

Through the corner of Fury's eye, he could see the skin on that mans clenched fist brighten, similar to the videos that Peter had shown them earlier.

Of course, this didn't go unnoticed by MJ either.

"Look, this will all go much better if you all just surrender to our investigation. That way no one has to get hurt." MJ tries to defuse the situation, as she had a feeling that a fight was about to break out.

"We can't allow you inside without a warrant. Leave now." The guard with the glowing hand orders gruffly.

"We don't need a warrant. The Avengers operate above any government. We could raid the white house and no one could do a damn thing about it." Fury explains, ready to grab his high-caliber pistols at any moment. "Now surrender, or else."

The guard didn't bother talking any further as his body began to glow from under his skin.

"Fire!" He commanded as a stream of fire launched out of his mouth and toward the two intruders.

As a hail of automatic bullets came flying their way, Fury and MJ acted quickly, dodging the rifle fire and actual fire that came soon after as well.

"Is he the one causing the explosions?" MJ asks as she chains web shots, flinging herself in all sorts of directions in order to keep out of harm's way.

"Could be..." Fury gives her an abrupt two-word answer, as he was too busy putting his new super soldier body to work, dodging, dipping, and diving away from bullets and dragon's breath.

Just as they came to a possible conclusion, the automatic sliding doors of the building opened, and out walked five other men, who were all glowing in the same fashion as the head guard.

"Nope, there's more!" MJ yelled as a combined stream of dragon's breath came flying in their direction.

"You think?" Fury asks sarcastically as he gets the hell out of the way.

"Aaaahhhhh!" Horrible screams could be heard, as the glowing guards uncaringly burned every other guard between them and the intruders.

As fire engulfed the entrance to the building, the normal guards couldn't take the heat and burn brightly before falling over, dead. The smell of cooked meat filled the open air as charred carcasses' were left sizzling on the ground.

Only the Extremis-enhanced lead guard was unharmed, as his body is used to the extreme heat and can heal at a moment's notice.

"Ewww, this is disgusting." MJ whined as she covered her nose, blocking the barbecue smell from getting in. "I think I'm going to puke."

"I've seen and smelled worse." Fury says as he draws two large caliber revolvers from underneath his coat. "Get your head in the game."

bang bang bang...

Without waiting for a reply from MJ, Fury took aim and started firing his revolvers akimbo style. The first shot landed directly on the original guard's forehead, dropping his body to the ground like a puppet without strings.

Seeing this, MJ jumped into action next and engaged the five fire-breathing newcomers. Landing in front of them, she winds her arm back and smashes a fist into the closest ones face, sending him flying back into the building.

Smelling something burning, MJ looked down and saw smoke rising from her hand, where her fist collided with the man's face.

"Is his whole body burning hot?" MJ asks as she pats out the smoke on her fist while dodging another round of dragon breath from the remaining four Extremis users.

"What the..." Fury mutters in shock as the man he shot in the head sat back up like the Undertaker.

He watched as the large hole in the center of the man's forehead burned brightly and closed back up, leaving no scars or marks behind whatsoever.

He was completely healed.

"Are these guys fire zombies?" MJ asks as she saw this happen as well. "How are we supposed to beat them, if they can just keep getting back up like nothing happened?"

Without giving the guy a chance to even get back to his feet, Fury walks over and shoots him for a second-time execution style. As the second bullet drilled into his head, Fury pulled out a black tube-shaped metal object.

Clicking a button with his thumb, a purple energy blade shot out of the metal tube, creating a sword.

"Is that a lightsaber?" MJ asks excitedly, as she is a fan of Star Wars.

"No, it's an energy blade from the Kree ships." Fury shakes his head.

"You just explained what a lightsaber is..." MJ says as Fury takes his new blade and swipes it at the neck of the downed man, severing his head from his shoulders.

"Let's see if you can still heal without a head." Fury comments as he kicks the man's severed head away from his body, so that it couldn't reattach.

Watching in silence, even the other four Extremis users wanted to know the outcome of Fury's little experiment, as it could mean life and death for them.

Seconds later, the head and body of the beheaded man started to glow uncontrollably. Fire shot out of the separated neck slices, as his skin began to smolder and crack.

"That doesn't look good!" MJ exclaimed as she swung away, pulling her father alongside her.

Suddenly, a big fiery explosion, like the ones from the recent Mandarin bombings, went off and engulfed the front entrance of the building.

Kaboom!