

The Price of Peace

Von chelle76

Kapitel 17: Action

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Chapter 16: Action

The morning after Thomas and Colt left, Saber, Amanda and Commander Eagle left before anyone else got up. Not long after they had left, Elaine cooked breakfast for all that remained, and noticed that Robin hadn't come down yet. Thinking that the young woman might just be missing her husband, and not want to see the other couple, she takes her a plate up to her room, and that's when she hears her retching. "Ms. Robin?" Elaine asks concerned as she enters the room. "Is everything okay?"

"No, Elaine it's not." Robin says, nearly in tears.

"What's the matter?" Elaine asks sympathetically.

"I didn't feel well yesterday, so I went and laid down. I felt better for a bit, but then I felt sick again," Robin says. "I wasn't running a temperature or anything, so I just rested, and ate what I could. Now, today I'm sick again, and I fear..."

"What do you fear?"

"I think I might be pregnant," Robin says fighting back tears.

"That's a good thing," Elaine says and sees Robin's face, "Isn't it?"

"Colt..." Robin begins, "he doesn't want to have kids."

"What do you mean? Why not?"

"He says, that leaving me is hard enough," Robin says. "But he's got to keep fighting to make the universe a better place, he's not sure if he could do it if we had kids."

Elaine gets down and hugs Robin, "It'll work out for the best, you see. From what I've

heard they want all of them to have teaching jobs, they don't want to break up a good team."

"Who told you that?" Robin asks surprised.

"I overheard Commander Eagle talking on the phone," Elaine says, "Amazing thing about being the help, is that people tend to forget you're around."

"So maybe Colt won't have to leave?"

"Maybe," Elaine replies.

Robin dries her tears, "Elaine, I need to get a pregnancy test, I need to know for sure."

"I'm sure that could be arranged," Elaine says, "I'll go to the store, I need some other things myself and I'll pick it up while I'm out."

"Thank you, Ms. Elaine. I'm sorry for the trouble," Robin replies as she gets up from the bathroom floor.

Elaine pats her gently on the shoulder, "It's no problem. I'll head out in a few minutes, so I can get back in time to cook dinner. I'll pick you up some saltines and soup as well." She heads downstairs and finds April and Fireball manning the com-link. "Any word from anyone?" she stops and asks.

"Colt said they have retrieved the ring and will be heading back shortly. They might be back tonight, if they don't run into too much traffic." April replies.

"What about from Saber?"

"Father said that he was sending Saber and Amanda back with a driver. That there really wasn't much they could salvage, and they were pretty tired," she replies. "So they should be back in about an hour or so."

Elaine nods, "I am running to the store. Do you need anything?"

"I'm not sure that's a good idea, Elaine," Fireball says standing up. "Why don't I go with you?"

"I'll be fine. You should stay in case a call comes in and one of you needs to leave, so that one of you is still here manning the coms. Miss Robin is upstairs resting. She is feeling a bit under the weather. I'll be getting some soup for her as well. I should be back before anyone else gets back."

Fireball starts to argue, but April stops him, "I suppose she's right, Fireball. I don't like it, but we don't have much of a choice."

"Call me if you need me before I return," Elaine says and heads out to the store. She does her shopping and is in the car heading home when two men pop up in her back

seat and place guns to head.

"Tell anyone we're here and you'll be dead before you can blink," One of the men say.
"We're back here. You continue home as you normally would and we won't harm you."

Elaine stiffens up and nods, "Okay." she replies and drives back to the estate. She is waved in by a Calvary Command soldier who doesn't give her a second glance.

"Good, now get out slowly. We have our guns pointed at you." the man says.

Elaine does as instructed and they escort her into the house. She is forced into the living room and April and Fireball turn around only to find armed men pointing guns at them.

"Hands on your heads, and don't try anything., the taller man says holding a gun to Elaine's head. They comply and the other man goes and ties them up. The door opens and the guard at the gate is led in by a third man. The guard is bleeding from a cut on his head and looks a bit disoriented.

"He put up a good fight," the third man says, as he shoves the guard towards the others.

They take Elaine and tie her to a chair. "Is anyone else here?" he asks her, gun pointed at her.

She hesitates for a minute, "Upstairs. She is ill and in bed. She won't be a problem., she replies quietly.

The taller man nods to the others, "Go and get her."

The other two head up and a few minutes later, they carry Robin down the stairs, hands bound behind her. "I think we could've just locked her in. She keeps throwing up." the third man says.

"She could be faking it," the first man says eyeing her suspiciously.

"I don't think so, but you're in charge. What are we going to do if she does throw up again?"

"Hold out a bucket, or a trash can or something. I don't want them left alone."

Robin starts shaking and the one man notices and takes a garbage can to her and she throws up again, "See? I don't think she's faking it."

April looks at her concerned., "Can't you just lock her in her room and guard her or something. She's miserable."

"We weren't ordered to kill them, so why not?" one of the men says to the leader.

The leader sighs, "Fine. Take the sick one back to her room. But take any electronic device out and lock the door so she can't get out."

The quiet one nods and gently takes Robin back to her room, and after removing all electronic devices and searching for weapons, he unties her and sets the garbage can inside the door, "Now stay put. I don't want no trouble or I will shoot you. Do you got it?" Robin nods and runs off to throw up again. He closes the door and wedges something between the floor and handle so that it can't be opened from the inside and stands outside the door.

The com-link comes alive and Commander Eagle's voice is heard, "April, Shinji, can anyone hear me?" No reply comes and he asks again. Still no reply. "The soldier that took Saber and Amanda has yet to report back, have they arrived back there yet?"

April looks to Fireball and he looks back, "We can't reply," she says quietly.

"Yeah, I know." Fireball says with a sigh.

"I hope they're all right," Elaine says concerned.

"Oh, if the guys did their job, they're already dead, madam," the leader states with a grin. "They'll get a good price too"

.

"April? Fireball? Anyone there?" Colt's voice comes in over the com a few hours later. "If you can hear me we're stopping by Amanda's I want to see if Saber and Amanda are ready to come back. See you in a couple hours."

"Warn the others that the cowboy is coming through. Tell them to kill him if he puts up a fight," The leader says to the remaining man.

The man pulls out a cell and texts the message and closes his phone again, "That should give them ample warning."

"Mr. Wilcox, I don't like it that no one has replied to your calls," Thomas says. "Perhaps we should head towards Ms. Kelly's house and seek out Commander Eagle?"

Colt nods, "I don't like it either. Something ain't right. I can't get anyone on the com-link." They drive for another hour before arriving at Amanda's place just before dark. A soldier stops them at the gate.

Colt holds out his EBU for the soldier to see, "I'm looking for Commander Eagle or Captain Rider, have you seen them?"

"No sir, not for a while. Captain Rider and a young woman left this afternoon. Commander Eagle left a couple of hours ago."

"Did he say where he was headin'?" Colt asks the soldier, an uneasy feeling building.

"Back to Captain Rider's home, I believe," the soldier replies.

"Thank you," Colt replies and they back out and start driving back towards Saber's. "I don't like this," he mutters under his breath. "This reeks of trouble."

"Yes, it appears there are some bad things going on, Mr. Wilcox. How are we going to handle this?" Thomas asks.

Colt glances towards him and slows the car down, "You see that?"

"What, sir?" Thomas asks.

"The flashes of light. There's a gunfight up ahead. Looks like maybe some firecrackers or grenades too," Colt says pointing towards the road ahead.

Thomas glances in the direction he points and sees a large flash followed by several smaller flashes, "So I see. What are we going to do?"

Colt pulls off onto a side road, "Switch places with me. Stay here and leave the car off. I'm going to get close enough to see what's happening. I'll call you and tell you what to do next. If I'm not back here in fifteen minutes, drive back to Amanda's place and get help." He hands Thomas his EBU, "Show them this and they should come."

Thomas nods, "Yes, sir." He hunkers down in the car and Colt heads off into the darkness towards the fighting.

After several minutes Colt approaches some trees close to the car. He sees a person toss out a grenade, a flash and then gunfire. He watches this for several minutes, mentally noting where the shots are fired from. He sees seven, then there are six. "Looks like someone out there is on our side," he mumbles and slowly continues his approach. A big flash and more shots. "Now five." He watches once more and then fires five shots in the directions of where the shots were fired from. Another big flash and then nothing. He cautiously approaches the car the grenades were being thrown from, seeing someone inside, he opens the door and points his gun at them.

Commander Eagle looks up, covered in blood and weak. "I guess you took them out?" he asks weakly.

Colt nods, "Yes sir." He lowers his weapon and starts looking around for any sign of other people before tending to the commander. He grabs a first aid kit from the under the seat and bandages up the wound as best he can. "We need to get you to a doctor, sir."

"Saber and Ms. Kelly are still out there, Colt. We need to find them first. I'll be okay," the commander replies, getting slowly out of the car with Colt's help.

Colt slowly looks around, "I don't see any sign of them. I need to get Thomas to come here." He grabs his phone and calls Thomas. "He'll be here in a couple of minutes, sir."

Just then they hear the sound of footsteps rushing towards them. "Well, look who decided to join the party." Colt says sarcastically.

"Colt?" Saber and Amanda reply.

"Good to see you too," he replies with a grin. "Ya'll did pretty good to not get yourselves killed."

"Our driver wasn't so lucky," Saber replies solemnly. "Oh, and we left one of the guys unconscious over there," he says pointing towards the direction they came from. "Amanda took out another attacker with the car."

"So that's what happened to two of the shooters," Colt says grinning.

"The one we knocked out says there were seven of them," Saber replies.

"I'll go and get 'em," Colt says and heads off in the direction they left the man in.

Commander Eagle looks over them carefully, "You both look exhausted, but otherwise relatively unharmed."

"You should get your arm checked, sir." Saber replies.

Thomas arrives with the car. "Master Saber, Ms. Kelly! Thank God you're all right," he says relieved.

Colt arrives dragging the unconscious attacker over his shoulder and plops him onto the ground, "You knocked him out good, Saber."

"I didn't care to be shot at again, Cowboy," Saber replies.

Commander Eagle hangs up his phone, "I have reinforcements coming now. They will take care of returning the soldier's body to Calvary Command for a military funeral. As well as doing what they need to do to get this mess cleaned up."

"Sir, I've been unable to raise anyone at Saber's place. I can't get anyone on a cell or the com-link," Colt says.

"That's not a good sign," Saber says darkly. "I hope they're all right."

"We need to wait for the reinforcements," Commander Eagle states.

"I'm not so sure that's a good idea, sir," Amanda says speaking up. They all turn to look at her. "Think about it, if these people have breached security and taken the grounds, and we show up with a bunch of soldiers, it could be a bloodbath. They obviously are not against killing someone. We need to assume that since no one is replying to us, including the possible intruders, that they are alive." She sees them all nod and she continues, "Saber, I know the house has all kinds of secret places, is there some way to get to the house from a secret entrance or something? Like maybe from the place we

camped that time we were gone for a week?"

Saber studies her for a moment and nods slowly, "I'm not sure if it will open, but there is a passage to the house into our bedroom in the dressing area, come to think of it."

"What? How?" Thomas asks astonished.

"Being an old castle, there are lots of unknown passages. I used to enjoy finding them and investigating them as a child. The exterior entry to the walled off part of the basement is hard to find and we can reach it relatively unseen from the side of the property. If we can get in there, and pray that the secret doors work without a lot of noise, we might be able to infiltrate the house and cut down on the resistance," Saber says, and then he looks to Amanda and smiles. "What made you think of such a thing?"

"As you said, your home was once a castle. Every story that I've ever read about castles say they are full of such secret places. I thought it was a logical thing to ask," She replies simply.

Saber looks to the others, "Can we agree to this plan?" They all nod. "Good. Then we should be going."

"What about this guy?" Colt asks nudging the captive.

Saber looks to the commander, "Sir?"

Commander Eagle looks down at the captive on the ground, "He may yet be of use. Let's wait until the others arrive and leave him with them. I don't think toting him around with us would be a good idea."

Some soldiers arrive a short time later and they tend to the commander's injuries before they load up into Thomas' car and drive back towards Saber's estate. As they approach, they notice that the gate is guarded by someone other than a soldier. They turn down a road before getting too close and stop the car a good distance from the gate, around towards the side of the property. "We'd best go on foot the rest of the way," Saber says sounding more tired than he intends as he gets out of the car, followed by the others.

Amanda casts him a concerned look, "Are you going to make it?"

"I've come this far," he replies. "How are you holding up?"

"I hurt like Hell, but as you just said, I've come this far," she replies.

He casts a glance to the others, noting that everyone, save Colt looks exhausted. "I hope we can do this," he mutters as they slowly make their way towards the secret area of the house. After what feels like an eternity, they find the hidden entrance to the basement and go in, closing the door behind them. A few seconds later, Amanda lights a lamp and everyone blinks to allow their eyes to adjust.

They all look around at the sparsely furnished room, noting the two cots and some firewood and canned goods. "I see how you two managed to do all right down here," Colt remarks looking around. "Now, any clue where the door might be, Saber?"

Saber concentrates, trying to study the room as best he can, "I want to say that it is over this way," he states, running his hand along the wall for a minute before stopping and feeling around. "I think it's here." He runs his hands along a groove before hearing a soft click. "There we go." Suddenly, the wall shakes a bit and a door appears. "We need some kind of light."

"Here," Colt says handing him a small flashlight. "It's not much, so you might want one of us to be in the lead."

Saber messes with it for a moment and nods, "Probably a good suggestion. You want to go first, Cowboy?" he asks.

"Sure thing," Colt replies and takes the light back from Saber. They make their way through the narrow passage way, taking care to make as little noise as possible. After several minutes and a large number of stairs, they come to a wall. "What now, Saber?" Colt whispers into the darkness.

"There should be a raised bump or something that should activate the door into the the dressing room," Saber whispers in reply.

Colt nods and feels around until he hears a click and the wall slides to the side, and light filters into the corridor temporarily blinding them. "Let's go," he whispers and they enter the room.

Saber turns and fumbles for the trip that closes the wall to hide the entrance before facing the group again, "Okay, we've made it in. We need to try and separate to cover more ground." The others nod in agreement. "Colt, you and I take back stairs and then the main path through the kitchen. We'll try and see how many are down there." Colt nods. "Commander, you and Amanda take the hallway to the bedrooms and see if anyone has hidden up there."

"Saber, she's unarmed," Commander Eagle protests.

"Actually sir, I'm not. I do have a sword," Amanda says quietly partially unsheathing it and wincing as she does.

"Okay, but you're in a good deal of pain," he replies. "Could you pull it if needed?"

Amanda nods hesitantly, "Saber, could you help me transfer it to be pulled left-handed?"

Saber nods, "Do you think you can manage it left-handed?"

"I think right now it'd be easier. You taught me to fight with either hand. I see the logic in that now," she replies.

He smiles slightly, "Come here and let's move it." She comes over and he helps her adjust the sword on the belt. "It's not made to be worn like this, but I think it'll work in an emergency." She nods. "Now Thomas, I'll need you to stay here until you know it's clear. If it sounds like things go badly, take the passage back and go for help. You have a firearm, correct?"

"Yes sir. One that your father gave me. In light of everything I've kept it close," he replies.

"Keep it on you and stay hidden. If anyone besides one of us comes into here, shoot first and ask questions later," Saber states. He nods and Saber turns back to the others. "Are we ready?"

They all nod and Saber and Colt enter the hallway first. Seeing no one in the immediate vicinity, they wave the commander and Amanda on and he and Colt descend the back stairs quietly. In the hallway, Amanda stops the commander and points to the guard a good ways down the hall outside of Robin's door. He's sitting against the wall, apparently asleep. Amanda looks to the commander who nods, and they quietly make their way towards the sleeping guard. Once they are upon him, Commander Eagle places his gun at the man's throat, startling him awake. "Move and you're dead," he whispers. Amanda comes and takes the gun from him and hands it to the commander. He orders the man up and the man complies, placing his hands on his head. Amanda then leads him into Robin's room and finds Robin asleep on the bed, the rope on the floor. She grabs the rope and they tie the man up and wake Robin.

"Where's Colt?" she asks worried seeing the harried condition of the commander and Amanda.

"He and Saber are trying to get the people downstairs. Do you know how many there are?" the commander asks.

"Three, I believe," Robin says trying to remain calm.

"Robin, Colt is unharmed. So calm down, all right?" Amanda says, placing a hand on her shoulder. Robin nods. "We need to see if we can help them. Can you guard him while we go and try to be of assistance?"

Robin nods hesitantly, "I think so." The commander comes over and hands her the gun from their captive. She hesitates, but he gives her a look and she takes it.

"I know you don't like guns, but if he even looks at you wrong, point and shoot," Amanda says calmly.

"How are you so calm, Amanda?" she asks trying to fight back tears.

"I'm too pissed to be anything else right now," she replies. "This will hit me later once the adrenaline wears off." She turns to the commander, "Shall we see how things are downstairs?"

The commander nods and they head out of Robin's room and quietly start for the stairs when they hear two shots. They stop after the shots and then they hear April's voice, "Colt, Saber, you're okay?"

"Are you guys all right?" Colt asks as he's uniting them.

"Yeah. Robin is upstairs." Fireball replies.

"She's fine. A little shook up, but she'll be fine," the commander says as he and Amanda come down the stairs.

Colt nods and rushes up the stairs to see about her.

"Where's Thomas?" Elaine asks finally calming down enough to speak.

"Oh, he's in my quarters, Elaine," Saber replies weakly.

Elaine nods, "You should sit down, Saber, you don't look well."

"I'm just worn out, Elaine. It's been a really long day," he replies.

Commander Eagle comes over to Elaine, "Come on, I'll take you to see Thomas and I'll call for some reinforcements to come here." He leads Elaine up to Saber's room.

"Saber, Amanda, are you two all right? You both look awful," April asks concerned.

"I plan on going and collapsing into bed as soon as I know it's safe to do so," Saber replies.

"As do I," Amanda says. "Right after I take something for pain."

"Yes. A pain pill would be good about now," Saber adds.

A knock at the door causes them all to pause. Fireball takes his gun from the dead intruder on the floor and goes towards the door, opening it slowly. On the other side are several soldiers from Calvary Command along with a group of local police. "Sir, we have word that there has been a home invasion at this address. Is that the case?" one of the local policeman asks.

Fireball holsters his weapon and nods. "Yes, we are fine now. But there were some people that broke in and held us hostage." he says as he steps aside so they can enter. "Their bodies are in here, save the one that is tied up upstairs."

They all enter the house and begin a search. Commander Eagle comes out and the soldiers start talking to him. Shortly afterwards, the head of the local police approaches him, "So you're the commander with Calvary Command, sir?"

"Yes. I'm Commander Charles Eagle. I'm the one that called you. I suppose you have

been briefed on the firefight about a half hour from here that happened overnight?"

The police officer nods, "Yes, and we have a Mr. Amberson. Evidently, he was one of the people paying to have a few people 'taken care of'. That is according to the one living shooter from the firefight."

"Well, we have one more shooter for you," Colt says as he leads the man that Amanda tied up downstairs at gunpoint, Robin following behind him. "You might have to cut him out of these ropes. The lady knows how to tie knots," Colt says glancing to Amanda with an amused look.

The cop nods, fighting the urge to smile as he takes the man from Colt's custody, "I'm glad that it appears the most of you folks seem relatively unscathed. I suppose they chose the wrong people to try and intimidate."

"So what happens now, sir?" Saber asks from the couch.

The cop turns to him, "We will bring these two up on a slew of charges, including murder of a military officer, arson, attempted murder, and false imprisonment, for starters. Once our investigation is finished, we may have more charges to bring up. There are others that we are also searching for that may be involved, so you might want to have more security here until we're sure we have everyone involved."

Saber nods, "Thank you, sir. I apologize for the trouble."

The cop laughs, "Your people are the ones cleaning this all up. I'm helping them by fetching the living perps. These boys are going to military prison. Keeps them out of our hair."

"I've got some fresh soldiers coming in for security detail, Saber," Commander Eagle says as he comes over to where Amanda and Saber are sitting. Saber looks as if he wants to object, but a look from the commander silences his objection. "I do not want to lose any more officers, active or otherwise."

Saber nods, "Very well, sir," he replies quietly.

Thomas and Elaine make their way into the sitting room, "Saber, I am so sorry about this," Elaine says as she comes and places a hand on his shoulder.

"Elaine, this is not your doing., she starts to protest and he holds a hand up. "They would have found some way in regardless. Things could have turned out much worse, for all of us. Do not place blame on yourself." Elaine nods slightly and he turns to Amanda, who is looking rather pale. "Amanda, are you all right?" he asks concerned.

"My shoulder is really hurting. I think it may have dislocated again," she says quietly while trying not to vomit from the pain.

Elaine sees her and comes over to her side, "Can you make it to the bathroom in my quarters?" she asks. Amanda nods slightly and slowly tries to get up. Elaine leads her

towards her quarters as quickly as she can, barely making it before she starts vomiting.

Saber comes in a few minutes later, barely able to walk, "Is she all right?" he asks Elaine who is just coming out of the bathroom with a shirt.

"She needs a new shirt and a doctor. Her shoulder is out of joint. That much is visible," Elaine replies.

Saber cringes from the thought but nods, "I'll see if April can get her a shirt. I don't think I can go up and down the stairs again."

"I'll go. I think I can actually move faster than you right now. Take a seat, she's still throwing up. I'll be right back," Elaine says as she heads out the door to the main living area.

Saber sits down in a chair not far from the bathroom, waiting for Elaine to return. He hears Amanda whimper from pain. "Amanda? Can I get you anything?" he asks unsure of what else to say to her.

"No. Elaine went to get a doctor," she says before throwing up again.

Saber looks up as April comes in with a shirt, "Elaine sent me in to bring this for Amanda. It's a button up, so maybe I can get it on her." she offers a smile, "I stole it from your closet. I figured it would be looser on her."

He chuckles, "Good idea." He sighs, "She's still throwing up though. I hope the doctor comes quickly," he says glancing worriedly towards the bathroom.

April goes into the bathroom and talks quietly to Amanda. A little bit later the doctor comes in and goes into the bathroom, followed by Elaine. Commander Eagle comes over and sits in a chair close to Saber, "She's hurting pretty bad from what Elaine says." Saber nods. "She handled herself well given the circumstances. She was able to keep her head even when things got bad. Not always a quality one finds from a civilian. She was great with Robin, who was practically frantic," Commander Eagle says quietly.

"I know sir. She is rather resilient. I know it has taken all she has not to flip out during all of this. I had to calm her when she killed the one guy with the car, but it was like a switch. I told her that I needed her to stick with it, and she did. She has a good mind for logistics, as you saw when we broke back into here. I admire her ability to keep pushing, but one can only push so hard. I'm afraid she's found her limits. I just hope she comes out all right in the end."

Commander Eagle nods, "I hope so too. I also firmly believe that your parents would approve of your choice, Saber, for what that opinion is worth. I know that Sincia would not have survived such an ordeal. Keep her close Saber. I think you both will need each other in the coming months. We may yet have to have another trial, or two in light of recent events." He looks at Saber and studies him closely, "How is your vision? I know

it's not back, but you have a little, don't you?"

Saber nods, "I have a little. Mostly shadow and outlines. If I try really hard I can make out things for a moment or two, but I know it's not getting much better, if any better from what I have now."

The commander nods, "Once this is over, and you have had time to rest., perhaps we can see about a teaching job for you. You seem to have taught Ms. Kelly quite a lot. I think you could be utilized as an excellent teacher."

"I'm not sure if I'll feel up to returning, sir," Saber replies quietly.

The doctor comes out and approaches Saber, "Captain Rider, I was able to get Ms. Kelly's shoulder back into joint, and I've wrapped it so that she shouldn't be able to move it much. It should remain in the sling for the next month. I will return to check on her in a week, if the shoulder swelling hasn't gone down, we will need to do surgery. I have given her a shot of cortisone and something something for pain and nausea. I will help get her upstairs so that she may rest. Then I would like to examine you before you get some much needed rest."

"Okay," Saber replies exhausted.

Fireball and Colt come in and they go in and get Amanda to help take her upstairs. "We'll take her to your room if you want," Colt says.

Saber nods, "The bed is larger, so she can find a way that's the most comfortable for her."

Colt goes to make a comment and Fireball shakes his head, "Don't Colt. He's likely to hurt you if you say what's going through your head," he mutters under his breath, silencing Colt. They take Amanda carefully leading her up the stairs.

The doctor looks over Saber, trying to appraise his condition, "I think I'm going to need you to lay down, Captain. So that I can see your injuries and check for any complications that may have arisen from overexertion."

Saber sighs, "Then I suppose I should head upstairs. Perhaps I should lay down in Amanda's bed."

"I don't think we'll bother her too much, if you'd rather get to where you can just rest after we're through," the doctor replies.

Saber nods and slowly gets up, "Then lets make our way upstairs to my room." He slowly works his way upstairs and the doctor follows him into the room.

A little while later, the doctor comes down to find the others waiting in the sitting room. "Well?" April asks concerned.

"He is resting," the doctor replies looking between the people waiting for news. "All

things considered, he is doing well. I do however recommend that he and Ms. Kelly get plenty of rest. I doubt that either one of them will feel like moving for the next day or so. Ms. Kelly may yet need surgery to repair her shoulder. She is rather strong-willed to have been able to hold up as she evidently has during this ordeal."

Commander Eagle stands up and approaches the doctor, "Thank you for coming. We will call if we need you before you return in a week."

The doctor nods, "Call me if your arm becomes inflamed. It looks like a minor injury, but the way you people seem to push yourselves, even something simple could become complicated," he adds with a smile before leaving.