your love is tough, your love is tried and true blue

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Category:	<u>M/M</u>
Fandom:	Lifesteal SMP
Relationship:	Ashswag/Reddoons (Video Blogging RPF)
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Additional Tags:	Fluff, Domestic Fluff, my favorite sorry, Marriage Proposal, i really like
	sappy swagdoons personally and i love writing them like that,
	Established Relationship, set whenever you want it to be as i am not
	<u>caught up with s5 anyway lol!, Kissing, Many happy tears, probably ooc</u>
	<u>but you know what else is ooc? me being happy. yeah, i had So much</u>
	trouble with the actual proposal speech part being ooc to me, but i have
	no idea how to make it in character better lol, my beta reader said it
	<u>was okay though so we move, anyway hope you enjoy :3</u>
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## your love is tough, your love is tried and true blue

by treacherouna

Summary

"Are you crazy, Reddoons?" is all that can leave his mouth with the way his heart is pounding in his ears. If he still had that headache, it would be for an incredibly different reason right now.

"I really don't think I'd be here if I wasn't."

or; how i think a swagdoons engagement would go

Notes

ohhhhh man i had such a good time writing this even though it took me hours (for some goddamn reason  $x_x$ ) haha it made me feel very warm and happy and i hope it does the same to you! title from <u>true blue by boygenius</u>, one of my favorite love songs ever :) (feel free to skip this next part of the note if you're seeing me for the first time lol)

[taps mic] is this thing on . Hello . It is I. I have finally returned from the war. it has been a while huh! in true ao3 author fashion my life has been a rollercoaster that has only gone

down in the time you haven't seen me and i also completely lost interest in lifesteal in the meantime but alas i am back! and i come bearing a single gift! this is probably not my best work as it came to me while i was showering but i hope you enjoy it anyway <3

i have learned to stop making promises so i can't say you will be seeing me again soon (although this is a lie as i am 'cooking' something up so to speak) (it's gonna take a while but it'll also be longer than anything i've written in a hot minute i think haha) but i am always on <u>twitter</u> as the chronically online person i am. who knows maybe the next time you do see me it'll be for a completely different fandom (cough) qsmp (cough) until then though i leave you with this  $(\bigwedge * \Upsilon )_{\circ} *^{\circ} \diamond$ 

See the end of the work for more notes

It's one of the calmer days on the server, he has to admit. Most people aren't on, and the ones that are don't pose much of a threat to him — either physically or in the "likely-to-bother-him" sense. He feels a headache coming on anyway and will appreciate having some time to himself, finally able to let his guard down completely after weeks of being pent up.

At least, that was the plan until his communicator pinged.

Praying to some entity higher than himself (there isn't one, but he tries anyway) that his plans are undisturbed, he lets out the breath he was holding at the sight of it just being Red joining. Out of the corner of his eye he also sees the tab list, however, and the way Red's icon has the outer layer on — which means he is very close to where Ash is. And advancing rapidly, knowing him.

...He can't help but heave the involuntary sigh at seeing him approach, but he also doesn't turn away from the kiss Red is immediately offering his cheek when he gets closer to him. He tries smiling sweetly back, but doesn't think he pulled it off quite right — either way, Red smiles as bright as the sun in return.

## "Headache?"

He nods and that's all it takes for Red to take his arm and lead him back to Ash's base. Thankfully, none of his teammates were on so there didn't need to be any awkward explanations on what the hell Reddoons was doing in their base.

It's not like they've kept their relationship secret, really, the others are just bad at figuring them out. He can't blame them, considering he and Red have had an... interesting history. The number of arguments they've had in front of them is in the tens, and the number of them which he actually remembered afterwards is in single digits. Hard to stay mad at each other when you're practically begging the other for forgiveness the following day. Aside from their arguments and bickering (which happens even behind closed doors), there has also been a fair amount of longing stares and unnecessary physical closeness — but all that got them was a weird, questioning look and a "Uhhh, anyway...". Not their finest moments, but they'd only happen when they haven't seen each other one on one in a while, anyway. After Zam gave them one too many suspicious glances one time, they'd gotten better at making sure those moments don't happen. They still argue in public, though. They both find it funny.

Once they're both out of sight, Ash can physically feel the way his entire body melts. He really underestimated how stressed he was if being safe and alone with Red was all it took for him to turn to mush. He's so impatient to rest properly that he's already heading to his, *their* bedroom before

Red is even finished with taking his armor off. The chuckle he hears from him once he gets into bed and tries fusing with the blankets would make him smile if he wasn't so exhausted. Thankfully, it doesn't take long for Red to join him.

Most of the calm days on the server are spent exactly like this: some people are out grinding materials, others repair their armor and weapons, while Ash and Red spend it surrounded by warmth, and most importantly, each other.

Their current position is one of their more common ones, with Ash's head in Red's lap, wrapped up in their blankets. Red is currently running his fingers through his hair and softly speaking about whatever server event he's speaking about. Ash doesn't care as long as he keeps doing it. Red knows he isn't really paying attention, but his grunts of response are well-timed enough that he doesn't call him out on it. Plus, with the way Red is apparently focused on trying to braid his hair, he doubts he himself knows exactly what he's talking about. It's a comforting routine for both of them, Ash gets to unwind and feel pampered, Red gets to pamper and infodump as much as he wants. It's a win-win, really.

At some point, though, Red seems to have had enough of Ash's hair and asks him to sit up next to him. Ash obliges, but not without grumbling about him breaking the nice, fuzzy feeling that was surrounding him.

"Sorry, I'll try to be quick, I promise." Red smiles, and Ash immediately knows that whatever he wants from him is not going to be quick whatsoever.

"Ash... We've known each other for a long time now, haven't we? I don't think there's a single person in the universe that knows me as deeply as you do. This server is pretty much hell, but you were always the one thing that made it bearable for me. Despite everything, no matter how much we liked or disliked each other, you were always *there* throughout it all and I guess it took me a long time to see how much I liked that."

From the moment he opened his mouth, Ash knew where this was going. The nice, fuzzy feeling from earlier has completely left him and he feels more awake than he has in days. He also feels very aware of his incredibly deep and dark eye bags, and how he hasn't even changed from his outside clothes before falling into bed, which means they're all very wrinkled right now, and how his hair is probably also a mess from how much Red touched it and *holy fucking* shit *is he actually doing this right now*—

"When you kissed me that day, everything changed for me. I finally realized just how much of my life revolves around you and how much I didn't want it to *stop*. I want you to be there for every part of my life from this moment on, and I want to be there for *you* for every part of *our* lives."

He moved to get something from one of his pockets, but Ash couldn't look away from his eyes even if he tried. His eyes, his ocean blue eyes that are looking at him with so much love and care in them that he feels like crying. God, he might throw up.

"I guess... Well, I think you already know what I'm going to say." He hears the click of a box opening, but still doesn't look down.

"Ash. Will you marry me?"

"...Are you crazy, Reddoons?" Is all that can leave his mouth with the way his heart is pounding in his ears. If he still had that headache, it would be for an incredibly different reason right now.

"I really don't think I'd be here if I wasn't." Red laughs out, clearly brimming with nervous energy

despite how hard he's trying to look calm. Damn, it's really cute.

"Yes, fuck, of course it's a yes!"

He only gets to see the relief and joy wash over Red for a brief moment before he's closing his eyes and kissing him. His hands are on his shoulders, and he's trying really hard not to cry, but he can bet Red is too.

As corny as it sounds, he swears this kiss is unlike any they've shared before, so full of love and happiness, and it truly feels like the seal to the promise of forever they've just made.

When they part for air, they're both wearing matching smiles and sniffling.

"You haven't even looked at the ring." Red says, laughing through his tears and Ash resists the urge to roll his eyes at him.

"Who *cares* about the rin– Oh. *Wow*." He can feel himself getting even more choked up once he actually sees the ring— it's simple, a ruby on a golden band, surrounded by minor detailing, but it looks *handmade* and Ash is well aware that there aren't any jewelers on the server. He isn't even sure how Red managed to get a ruby here, and doesn't that say everything.

"I think I just fell in love with you all over again."

Red grins at that, and moves to wipe the tears running down Ash's cheek, but before he can, Ash takes his hand, intertwining their fingers, and moves closer so their foreheads and noses touch.

After taking a moment to try and compose himself, he moves back, just so he can take out the chain from underneath his shirt. It's the necklace he wears all of his hearts on, ten in number, and turns so he can let Red unclasp it. Once he does, he takes it from him, only to move it back to him and gesture toward the ring. Red gets the hint and puts the ring on the necklace, right in the middle of his hearts. He helps Ash put it back on, and when they both see the way the ring falls on his chest, right next to his actual beating heart, they once again smile so wide their cheeks hurt. Ash can't resist kissing him again.

The next day, nothing really changes. They're once again bickering in front of the others, but are definitely unable to clear the giddy energy surrounding them. Zam is probably onto them by now, and must know something *really* good happened with them, but they're too love drunk to care or notice. And when they start not-so-subtly holding hands whenever they're close to each other, who's going to stop them?

## **End Notes**

i really like the "hearts are worn as jewelry" hc and i thought it tied in nicely with this cause it implies red is his heart as well y'know :) also i never got to mention it but the ring box is handmade as well! i'd like to think ash discovers that a few days later and bursts out crying again lol can't think of what'd be inscribed on it though hmmmm maybe the outline of a rose and a 'for ash'? :D also also ash does get red a ring as well... just a bit later.... future sequel maybe? lol let me know Please drop by the archive and comment to let the author know if you enjoyed their work!