

Aching Heart

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Aching Heart

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Summary

Subz almost cried right then and there, Vitalasy had told him he loved him a thousand times over, but nothing was as romantic as that. He sniffed as he pulled Vitalasy into a hug, a sappy ass smile on his face.

“If only I could die and come back,” Subz mused sadly. “I would let you do that in an instant.” Vitalasy shook against him and Subz couldn’t tell if he was laughing or crying.

Notes

I read the new Nevada AU one shot and blacked out for 24 hours

See the end of the work for more [notes](#)

- Inspired by [Against the Kitchen Floor](#) by Anonymous

Subz had to be the luckiest man alive. Actually, no, considering everything that went on in his life (in the past and actively), that was dead wrong. But when he walked into his boyfriend and his... other boyfriend, he guessed, cuddled up together in bed, he sure felt lucky.

Already, his plan was to drive home overnight from college to surprise Vitalasy. To get home to not only Vitalasy, but *Zam* too was like stumbling into an oasis after being lost in the desert. Subz sighed and looked at the bed again, god damn.

The two were Subz's sun and star, yellow and orange hair mixed together near the headboard where they lay. Like he was being pulled towards them, Subz gravitated towards the bed. When he got closer he noticed Vitalasy's mouth moving, and watched him mouth gently across Zam's neck. It would be sweet until Subz saw Vitalasy's jaw opened wide, still angled at Zam's neck. Panic flashed through him and he clambered onto the bed frantically. He still wasn't even sure if Vitalasy was *awake* yet.

Quickly, Subz put his hand into Vitalasy's hair to redirect him. Ginger locks sifted through his fingers and Vitalasy's eyes snapped open. He looked panicked for a second before he recognized Subz and brightened instantly.

"Subz!" The happy shout accompanied Vitalasy rocketing to a sitting position and tackling Subz in a hug. "You're back early!"

Subz laughed, pushing them both back up to vertical. Vitalasy smelled like the earth, fresh and calming with a little hint of iron underneath. His scent was one thousand percent Subz's comfort smell, nothing else made him feel this kind of safe.

"My professor let me leave early," Subz explained. "Because he knew you were still here and we hate being apart." Vitalasy aww'ed into Subz's neck, still wrapped around him. Between the two of them, Subz was shorter, but Vitalasy always managed to worm his way under Subz's chin.

"Not really though, right?" Vitalasy's lips brushed Subz's skin as he spoke. Knowing what Vitalasy was capable of, Subz logically should be scared if Vitalasy's mouth was this close to his most vulnerable spot. But Subz didn't get scared, he never was. Not even the night he brought home a beast instead of his boyfriend.

"No, he let me go because I'm really super smart and I was making the other students feel bad about themselves." Vitalasy shook his head disbelievingly as Subz spoke. They bumped their heads back and forth for a second, getting lost in old habits. Then Vitalasy brought them back to the present.

"Both," he snickered, seeing right through Subz immediately. Subz rolled his eyes but answered anyway.

“Yup, both.” Both were partially true. Subz had completed the required parts of the seminar early, and his professor was letting *anyone* who finished go home early. But Subz was also told personally that he could leave because Vitalasy was still at home. They hadn’t exactly been keeping their relationship a secret, but having a constant six foot something shadow that liked to hold his hand over tables tended to give Subz away.

People liked them at college, they were like celebrities because everyone knew them but no one saw them in person regularly. They were just “the boyfriends from out of town”, and honestly it helped them more than it harmed them.

They rarely traveled to college separately anymore. Not after Vitalasy went missing. Well, Subz went to college by himself occasionally, but Vitalasy had loudly proclaimed he would rather fail his class than drive by himself. (Subz would rather be kicked out of college and lose every job he ever had than have *that* happen to Vitalasy again. But he was pretty sure Vitalasy already knew that.)

Teeth scraping across his skin made Subz pause, and he suddenly remembered what made him wake Vitalasy up in the first place.

“Were you trying to bite Zam?” Subz asked cautiously. Vitalasy stopped slathering kisses on his neck, body going rigid.

“...was I?” He whispered, voice trembling. He was silent for a few more seconds, then erupted into a frantic: “Subz, I promise I’m not trying to hurt him! Please believe me.” Vitalasy grabbed Subz’s face with both hands and put them nose to nose, eyes wide in panic. “I don’t want to hurt him,” he repeated.

“But?” Subz prompted. He knew Vitalasy was leaving something out. They’d been together for too long for him to hide from Subz.

Vitalasy bit his lip, freckles contorting as he scrunched his face up in worry. Finally he sighed, eyebrows furrowing and eyes dropping closed.

“But he makes me *so hungry*,” Vitalasy admitted, eyelashes fluttering. “Every time I look at him I just want to rip his body apart and eat every last bit of him. I’d never be hungry again if I ate Zam.” With the last words Vitalasy squeezed his eyes shut and shrank away from Subz like he was expecting backlash. Subz closed his eyes too, his heart hurt.

“You can’t eat Zam unless he lets you...” Subz started. “But you can have me. I’ve said that multiple times, I trust-“

“If I take one bite of you I won’t be able to stop!” Vitalasy interrupted. “Subz, I know I said Zam makes me hungry but you would be the most delicious thing I ever ate. Nothing would taste like you. I wouldn’t be able to stop.” Tears pooled in Vitalasy’s eyes and his lips trembled. “And I can’t live without you,” he whispered, barely breathing.

Subz almost cried right then and there, Vitalasy had told him he loved him a thousand times over, but nothing was as romantic as that. He sniffed as he pulled Vitalasy into a hug, a sappy ass smile on his face.

“If only I could die and come back,” Subz mused sadly. “I would let you do that in an instant.” Vitalasy shook against him and Subz couldn’t tell if he was laughing or crying.

“You’re not scared of me?” Vitalasy asked in a small voice. His hands curled in the fabric of Subz’s shirt, thumbs moving nervously.

“I’ve seen you rip the heads off mice just as much as I’ve seen you trip over your own feet,” Subz deadpanned. “I could never be scared of you.”

“I could never be scared of you after seeing the face you made when you watched Zam and I make out for the first time,” he added in a muttered voice.

Vitalasy barked out a laugh and flopped backwards onto the bed, pulling Subz with him.

“It just hit me all at once that you both were mine, you *cannot* blame me,” he defended himself. Subz laughed and reached a hand over to tousle Zam’s hair. Somehow he hadn’t woken up during the whole time Subz and Vitalasy had been talking. He stirred now though, grunting quietly and pouting his lips.

“Oh, wait!” Subz exclaimed. “So you can’t bear to hurt Zam but you can do this?” He pointed to a small cluster of bruises on Zam’s neck. Vitalasy hummed defensively and opened his mouth to speak, but was interrupted by Zam who was evidently away now.

“Those are my trophies,” he mumbled sleepily, moving a lazy hand to cover his neck. Vitalasy snickered and rocked Subz back and forth like he was proving a point. Alerted by the bed moving, Zam’s eyes cracked open and he saw them both there.

“Hi Subz,” he smiled, rolling to face him. “You’re back early.” Little pink candy hearts flooded Subz’s brain immediately, because Zam was fucking adorable when he woke up and that didn’t change during the three days Subz was gone. Subz was pretty sure that would never change.

“Yeah, I am,” Subz nodded. “How’ve you been?” He technically hadn’t seen Zam in about a week. Since he was here to look for his brother, he didn’t live with them, and he was busy during the days leading up to Subz heading off to college.

“Bad,” Zam said truthfully. “Vi helped though.” He smiled softly at Vitalasy, face still pressed into the pillow. Vitalasy craned his neck over to press a kiss to Zam’s nose.

“What, by making a fucking mess of the couch?” Subz asked teasingly. He wasn’t mad- though the stains would be hell to get out. He was more upset that they did it without him, to be honest.

Vitalasy and Zam both pointedly avoided his eyes, giggling in a guilty way.

“Vitalasy was the one who ripped the couch!” Zam accused suddenly, slapping a hand over Vitalasy’s mouth so he couldn’t fight back. Subz hadn’t even *noticed* a rip in the couch, what the hell did they get up to?

“Yeah, but Zam made most of the mess!” Vitalasy counter argued once he managed to twist his way out of Zam’s grasp.

“That’s because you-“ Zam trailed off, glaring at Vitalasy. “That’s not my fault.” He said firmly. Vitalasy rolled his eyes disbelievingly but they all knew Zam was right about that one.

“We’re cleaning it tomorrow,” Subz said firmly. Both of his boyfriends nodded, they knew where to not argue with Subz. And he was pretty sure that they also wanted the couch clean. It was in everyone’s best interests to clean the couch tomorrow

Yes, the stains would be harder to get out if they let them sit overnight, but Subz was tired from driving and the other two were already asleep when he got here, so why not just stay in bed?

But then Vitalasy moved, rolling Subz off of him and standing up cautiously.

“Ugh, I’m hungry again,” Vitalasy complained as he slid out of bed. He shook his hair out then moved towards the bedroom door without looking back. Subz knew where he was going, human food only satisfied Vitalasy for so long. He wished Vitalasy didn’t feel as bad about it though.

“Bring me back some fries from the diner?” Subz asked. Warmth spread through his chest when Vitalasy turned around to smile and say “of course!”

Subz didn’t even like fries, he just wanted Vitalasy to know that he knew what he was about to do, and was okay with it. Not that Subz had ever been not-okay with it, Vitalasy just needed some reassurance from time to time. Subz was sure he would too if he were in Vitalasy’s situation.

“Take my jacket so you don’t get cold!” Zam’s voice almost startled Subz, he was so focused on Vitalasy. “It’s in the kitchen!” Subz’s breath caught in his throat, and he was feeling those stupid pink candy hearts again. He rolled over to cuddle Zam into oblivion without a second thought because Zam didn’t even *know* the gravity of Vitalasy’s situation, but he offered care anyway. *Damn*, Subz picked a good one.

Zam giggled when Subz latched onto him, but still looked up in time to catch Vitalasy before he left the bedroom completely.

“Be safe!” Zam called, still the caring boyfriend.

“Remember you’re the scariest thing out there!” Subz couldn’t resist adding, trying not to laugh.

“Oh, I know,” Vitalasy responded, failing not to laugh immediately. The joke went over Zam’s head, but he laughed with them anyway. Subz smiled fondly. See? Luckiest man alive.

End Notes

Let Vitalasy have a little snack (Subz and/or Zam) 2k24!

(Does anyone get that joke anymore?)

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