

Natasha Romanova is an ex-KGB assassin, an ex-agent of S.H.I.E.L.D., and a sometime Avenger. She has tried to use her unique skill set to atone for her past, but atonement is not erasure. Sooner or later, the past comes prowling back.

BLACK WIDOW

The “Weeping Lion” is using Black Widow’s darkest secret to blackmail her. She’s played along, stealing from S.H.I.E.L.D. and making an enemy of the dogged Agent Elder while trying to get close enough to learn the Lion’s endgame. Her latest mission was to return to Russia to retrieve a list of names associated with the Red Room—where young Natasha learned to be an assassin. Haunted by memories of her past, of the Headmistress and her daughter Anya, Natasha left herself vulnerable, and was stabbed by a child assassin.

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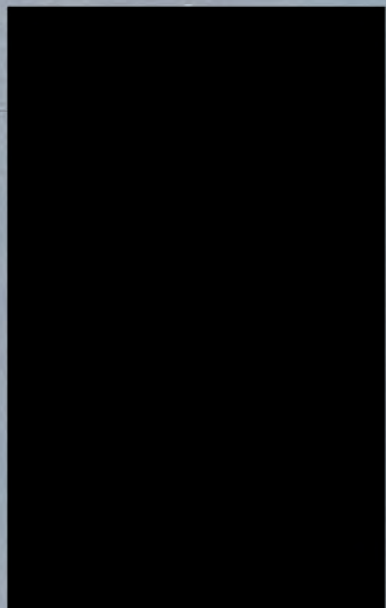
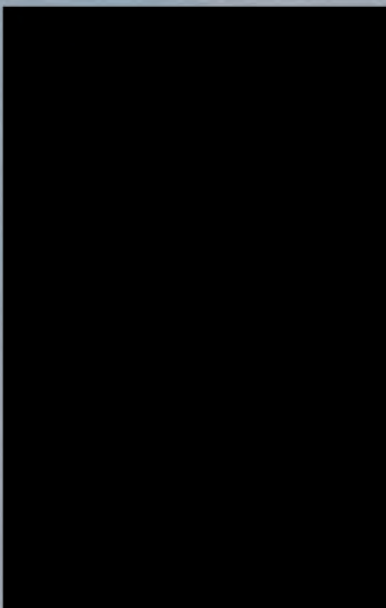
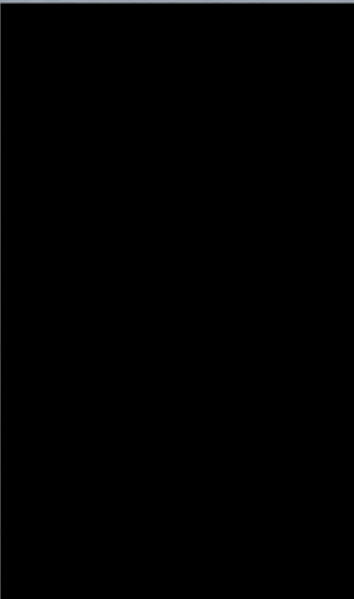
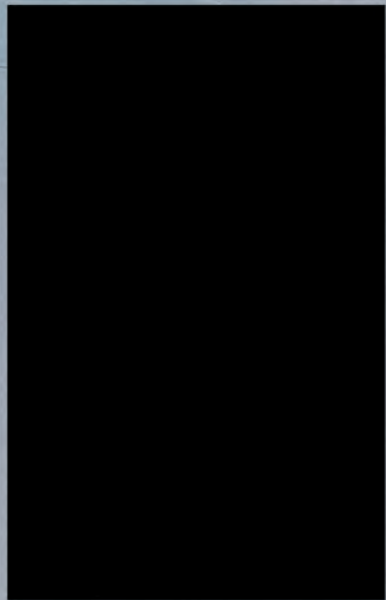
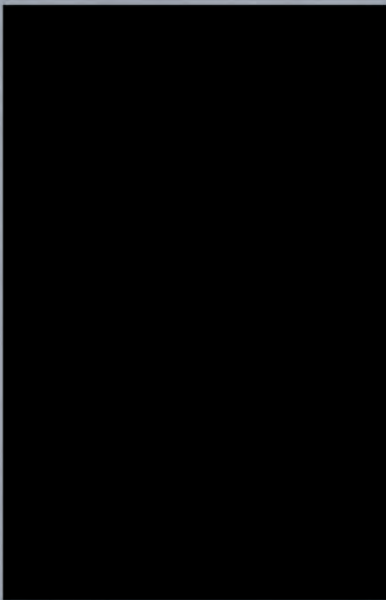
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THEN.





(NATASHA! THANK HEAVEN YOU'RE ALIVE!)*

(I TOLD YOU, IF YOU'D TAKEN ME WITH YOU--)



(YOU'D SURELY BE DEAD.)

(YOU'RE NOT EVEN A TRAINEE, ANY. YOU WOULDN'T LAST TEN SECONDS IN THE RED ROOM.)

(IN THE FIELD, YOU'D BE A DISTRACTION.)

*TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN.



(IN HERE, YOU'RE A DISTRACTION.)

-NNGH-

(DO NOT SPEAK TO ME. IF YOU TRY, I'LL DROP YOU BEFORE YOU CAN CLOSE YOUR MOUTH.)



(GO ON BACK TO BED.)

(YOU'RE SAFER AS MAMA'S LITTLE RECLUSE.)



-HNNGH-





BANG!

