



(Written by Seiko 🍀)
Comforting a Self-conscious Kirishima

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The audio takes place in the dorm at night. They just got back from a long day of rescue training. Everyone went to bed other than Kirishima, Kaminari, Midoriya, and Bakugou, surprisingly.

Midoriya: That was probably the most extensive rescue training we've ever had... I'm so exhausted... Ah, everyone went off to bed, and I don't blame them!

Bakugou: Oh shut up, Deku. It wasn't hard. Anyone could do rescue training like that, it's no big deal.

Kaminari: Psh! We can't all be perfect like you, Kacchan. Some of our quirks make rescue training really hard! I mean, look at Kirishima for example. He had a hard time today-

Kirishima: Kaminari..! ... **(Sigh)** Sure my quirk might not be the best for rescuing people in certain situations... But I still do my best.

Kaminari: Yaaaah I know, I know. You were just totally dazed today! **(Laugh)** How the heck do our teachers think *you're* gonna help in a water rescue? With your quirk you'd kinda sink like a rock, wouldn't you?

Kirishima: **(A little disheartened)** I don't know, man.. Probably.

Bakugou: It's not like you're any better, dunce face. You stood there doing nothing today.

Midoriya: Ah.. Everyone has different strengths and different weaknesses.. And that's okay!

Bakugou: Psh... Whatever. I'm going to bed, it's late.

Midoriya: O-okay, Kacchan..! Goodnight!

Kaminari: **(Yawn)** Mnnn alright, fiiine. I'm gonna go get some sleep too.

Night you guys! See ya tomorrow in class!

(Bakugou and Kaminari walk off)

....

Kirishima: .. Yeah, um..

I'm... gonna go get some air I think.

Midoriya: Oh, are you feeling okay, Kirishima?

Kirishima: Oh... yeah! I'm, uh.. I'm fine, Midoriya. Just need some fresh air, that's all!

Midoriya: Mm... **(Concerned)** If you're sure...

(Kirishima walks off, heading outside)

Midoriya: Hey.. um.. It is a little late, so I'm going to head up to my dorm. You should probably get some rest soon too!

But... Um... Kirishima, he seems like he's a little off right now. Maybe you could go talk to him?

Oh good! You're such a kind person. Kirishima really seems to look up to you... I think he could use a little bit of a pep talk. And I think.. I think it would mean a whole lot to him coming from you.

Well.. Goodnight! See you tomorrow~

(Deku walks off. Listener then walks to the door and heads outside. The ambience is crickets)

Kirishima: ah- oh.. Hey, you.

What are you doing out here? Needed some fresh air too?

Hmm? Oh.. You wanted to talk to me, huh?

(awkward laugh) Ahh, about what? What's on your mind?

....

Wait.. *me*?

Oh! No, don't even worry about it, I'm totally fine! It's all good!

There's nothing wrong, just felt a little uh... You know. Like I needed to cool down. We all worked pretty hard today so, uh... Yeah.

You know how it is.. **(Nervous laugh)** ..

(silence for a bit)

Sniffle

... Wh-? What? Oh, no I just have a stuffy nose I'm good!

No, hey I'm not lying I'm... I'm seriously...

... h..hey.. Stop.. staring at me so much..

(Sad sigh) ... Alright. Alright..

Lying to you isn't very manly of me.. I'm sorry.

I know you told me that.. Well.. if I ever needed someone to talk to... that you'd be here, so...

I guess I'll take you up on that... If that's okay.

Um... Well.. I don't even know where to start, to be honest.

There's... A lot going on in my mind.. All the time, you know? I try so hard to keep it on the back burner.. Because everything we're doing right now is way too important for these stupid...

(Soft, like he's embarrassed to admit it) insecurities... to get in the way...

I guess when I was... Younger... **(Sigh)** ..

(A little under his breath) I never thought I'd actually be telling anyone this... But.. I guess it's important to get things off your chest, so they don't eat away at you forever... right?

... Thanks.. For wanting to hear me out and listen to me.. It really means a lot to me. Just.. Promise you won't laugh at me or make fun of me, okay?

And.. Also promise me you won't tell anyone this. I don't really want anyone else to know...

Especially not.. Bakugou. He's someone who sees me as an equal to him and... Well.. **(Sigh)** If he knows who I was back then, I'm scared he'll think less of me.

Honestly.. I'm a little scared that you'll think less of me too...

... Ah.. you won't? .. You promise? ... Okay. That means a lot..

Well..

When I was younger, in middle school... I knew I wanted to be a hero. I wanted to be somebody who other people could look up to.. Someone who could make others feel safe.

But well... My quirk.. Back then, I always hated it.

... Weird right? Hating the quirk you were born with so much..! Hah.. Yeah.. It wasn't easy.

....

Here.. Come closer for a second.

..

See this little scar over my eye?

Hah, nah... I didn't get this in some cool fight or anything like that. I actually...gave it to myself.. As embarrassing as that is to say.

When my quirk first manifested, I rubbed my eye one night and cut it... So I guess ever since I could remember, I've struggled with accepting my quirk as a part of me.

A part of.. Well. Who I am and what kind of hero I really want to be..

Even now... It's.. **(sigh)** .. It's *really* hard to accept my quirk for what it is. I guess I thought since I got into UA, I could put all that self doubt behind me...

In a weird way, getting into UA almost made me a little more... anxious. Not that I don't appreciate it of course, but... Well.. Everyone here is incredible.

I'm.. Really worried I won't be able to keep up with them all.

I... I told myself I would never be a coward. That I'd never go back to who I was back then...

But sometimes... when I can't do certain things because of my quirk, it's really hard not to feel the way I used to back then...

... I totally rambled on too much didn't I? Ahhh I'm sorry!

Hah.. I guess the whole reason I feel a little down right now is.. Well, it's because during today's rescue training I couldn't really help all that much.

I'm sure you saw me standing there like an idiot, huh? Ahh.. yeah.. I guess my quirk isn't very versatile, you know?

When it comes to water rescue, Asui is perfect at it! And Todoroki can freeze the water and walk on the ice if he uses his quirk just right.

Bakugou can basically fly, so everything's a breeze for him! Midoriya can jump super far... Sero is basically spiderman with tape..

And Uraraka makes for a perfect rescue hero with her quirk, too...

Ahhhh, everyone's got such useful and flashy powers.

It's... Hard sometimes, to feel like I can't compare to my classmates.

So.. Hah. I'm sorry for moping so much. Sometimes I feel a bit.. Self conscious. It just takes me a couple minutes to remind myself why I'm here in the first place and to stop being so down!

H..huh.. Oh..! You're hugging me?

... **(Nervous)** Hah.. You're.. Really sweet you know that?

.. Mn.. Well now you've done it. Hugging me out of nowhere.. Now I won't be able to let you go.

You feel too nice and warm...

(silence for a bit as they hug)

(Soft sigh) ...

Hey.. Do you really think I belong.. You know.. Here? At UA?

.. Yeah? You mean it?

(Happy, soft) Thanks... That really means more than you could ever know.

To hear that from someone as strong and as fearless as you are... it's.. hah. It makes me feel confident that everything will be okay.

Even if I can't do what the others can sometimes, I just have to focus on what I'm good at and work harder at that.

... thanks for being so kind to me.

And.. haha, thanks for listening to me ramble on about my past! I feel kinda bad for going off about it like that..

Huh? Oh... well, thanks. I'm really happy I have someone I can talk to...

Hah.. you're the best.

... I guess I should probably let go of you now huh? Before someone sees us and gets the wrong idea..!

(They move away)

Hah, imagine if Ashido wandered out here and saw us hugging like that! She'd be spreading rumours for the rest of our lives!

Ah, anyway... I guess it's getting kind of late isn't it? We gotta get up super early for class tomorrow...

Want me to uh.. walk you up to your dorm room?

.. yeah? Alright. We should go, then. Follow me.

(They walk back indoors, and start walking to the elevator)

Kinda funny how quiet the dorms are at night huh? They're crazy loud during the day after class!

... hey! What do you mean I cause most of that noise? (Laugh)

Okaaaay, maybe you're right. But I swear it's mostly Kaminari!

(They get inside the elevator)

Ahh.. you're on floor 3 right? Here.

(Beep)

There we go.

Uhm... you know.. even though I was a little useless during training today, you did amazing. I kinda... found myself watching you most of the time.

I think you're going to be an amazing hero. I hope I can stand by your side in the pro hero charts someday.

(Elevator Doors open and they step out)

You really think I'll do good? Hah.. thanks. I'll always do my best, no matter what. I'll be up there with the rest of our class!

(Dorm room door opens)

So... um.. I'll see you tomorrow in class.

.. hey uh, Bakugou and I were supposed to study for the upcoming test but he was scouted for an internship with Endeavor! So.. he'll be gone for a bit.

Wanna maybe study with me? ..

We can go out to eat too if you want!

Hah.. sounds good, then! Wanna go out after classes tomorrow? I'll let you pick the place~

(Sweetly) I'm.. really looking forward to it.

I'll see you tomorrow, Kay? And thanks again.. for being there for me.

I'm not used to people caring so much so I kinda internalize all my feelings.. I know that's totally a bad habit.

Oh! Um.. one more thing.

You can rely on me too.. if you ever need someone to lean on. I'll always be here for you when you need it, no matter what.

Um...! Anyways! Have a good sleep alright? I'll see you tomorrow!

(Softly) goodnight.

(The door closes, and the audio fades out)