

**Karkat Vantas:** *The old troll was sleeping a lot lately, on the couch. He didn't really get up anymore, perhaps only to go to the load gaper. He was under the care of the other, much to his discontent. When the other offered to get food for him he grumbled in annoyance. But now he responded less and less, giving up on it really. He had been matesprits with the other since 8 sweeps of age but due to being a mutant, Karkat's lifespan was shorter than any other troll's.*

**Sollux Captor:** *Last days, he was getting worried about Karkat even more. He didn't want to eat, he barely moved away from the couch. Everytime he looked at him, he saw an old troll, with grayish hair, near to the color of his skin, while Sollux himself still looked nice, he hasn't really changed since they became matesprits - okay, maybe grew a few centimeters up. And got a more mature look, but nothing more. He still had a lot of time before going to the other world, unlike his matesprit. Even if he saw Karkat getting older everyday, his feelings towards him didn't change. Under that old shell there was still his Karkat, the same crabby asshole, who changed only superficially.*

**Karkat Vantas:** *Karkat seemed to awaken from his nap before coughing dryly once or twice. He slowly blinks, seeing the one that he loved. He just looked at him for a while. He looked just as he was before, and karkat loved that becaus he had always found Sollux cute and sexy. His vision became blurry and with a cold, bony shaky hand he rubbed his eyes with a sigh before snuggling back into the blanket. He still loved the other and was sad thinking about how Sollux would be after his death. He pushed those thoughts away, sighing again, eyeing the other.*

**Karkat Vantas:** WHAT ARE YOU UP TO, BUTTHEAD?

**Sollux Captor:** not much, ju2t lookiing at you.

**Karkat Vantas:** MHM..

**Karkat Vantas:** *coughed dryly a bit more then groans softly*

**Sollux Captor:** you are coughiing wor2e than ye2terday. diid you take your med2?

**Karkat Vantas:** *grumbled a "YES" which was not at all true because he didn't get up to go to the box. And whenever the other came over to give him a pill, he pretended to swallow it but then just stuffed it in the side of the sofa when the other wasn't looking.*

**Sollux Captor:** then ii dont get iit why your health ii2 gettiing wor2e and wor2e even iif you take your med2.

**Karkat Vantas:** BECAUSE I'M OLD AND SHITTY..

**Karkat Vantas:** I'LL BE GONE SOON, YOU KNOW THAT. AND YET YOU'RE STILL HERE.

**Sollux Captor:** no.

**Sollux Captor:** dont 2ay that.

**Karkat Vantas:** PISSING ME OFF AS USUAL, AND YES I WILL SAY THAT AS IT IS THE TRUTH.

**Sollux Captor:** you are not old, neither you are 2hiitty. and you are not goiing two diie.

**Sollux Captor:** 2o better 2hut up and re2t.

**Karkat Vantas:** JUST LOOK AT ME, I'M -- \*cough\* WRINKLY, HAIR IS GREY. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU SEE IN ME ANYMORE.. THERE ARE YOUNGER \*cough cough\* TROLLS OUT THERE.. AND I AM SOON.. I JUST FEEL IT.

**Sollux Captor:** maybe becau2e ii fuckiing love you and ii dont care about iit how you look liike.

**Sollux Captor:** ii will never fiind 2someone liike you and ii know that.

**Karkat Vantas:** sighs.

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU WILL.. YOU WILL.

**Sollux Captor:** no kk.

**Sollux Captor:** ii wont.

**Karkat Vantas:** *grumbled and closed his eyes pulling the blanket up a bit.*

**Sollux Captor:** *scooted over to him, pulling his head to his shoulder, then embracing him with his arm*

**Karkat Vantas:** *opened his eyes and blinked, gazing up. "HM?"*

**Sollux Captor:** *tried to keep his thoughts away. Thoughts of Karkat dying, leaving him alone, forever. Thoughts of his limp, dead body he might see soon. The voice he will never hear again. Spark in his eyes that will never glow for him anymore. He didn't even realize when there were salty tears streaming down his cheeks.*

**Karkat Vantas:** ...SOLLUX..

**Karkat Vantas:** *gazed sadly up at him, his dark wrinkled eyes sunken. He sighed and weakly hugged him.*

**Karkat Vantas:** ..LOOK I'M SORRY.. BUT YOU'D HAVE TO MOVE ON..

**Sollux Captor:** no!

**Sollux Captor:** dont 2ay that, plea2e.

**Sollux Captor:** ju2t... dont.

**Karkat Vantas:** *frowned.*

**Karkat Vantas:** ...FINE.

**Sollux Captor:** iit2 all not okay.

**Karkat Vantas:** *sighed.*

**Karkat Vantas:** BUT IT'S LIFE.

**Sollux Captor:** how can you be 2o okay wiith iit!?

**Karkat Vantas:** ....I'M OLD, SOLLUX. AND, EVERYONE DIES. SURE, I DON'T WANT TO.. BUT I HAVE TO. BECAUSE THAT'S LIFE.

**Sollux Captor:** ok.

**Sollux Captor:** fiine.

**Sollux Captor:** but iif you diie, i wiill diie two.

**Karkat Vantas:** ..SOLLUX. GODAMNIT..

**Sollux Captor:** there2 nothiing you can do wiith iit.

**Sollux Captor:** ii deciided.

**Karkat Vantas:** AW COME ON..

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU'LL HAVE EVERYONE ELSE..

**Sollux Captor:** no.

**Sollux Captor:** ii dont care about them.

**Karkat Vantas:** *pulls away from the other and stands*

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT, CAPTOR.

**Sollux Captor:** 2o are you.

**Sollux Captor:** but ii dont complaiin.

**Karkat Vantas:** IF I'M AN IDIOT, WHY ARE YOU STILL HERE?

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU'RE NOT JUST AN IDIOT. YOU RE A SELFISH IDIOT.

**Sollux Captor:** 2elfiish?

**Sollux Captor:** how the fuck am ii 2elfii2h.

**Karkat Vantas:** BECAUSE YOU WOULDN'T RESPECT WHAT I'D WANT AFTER ME

DEATH, YOU TO LIVE. I DON'T WANT YOU BEING A COWARD BECAUSE YOU'RE SC-- \*He coughs a few times violently and groans, holding his head as he sits.\* SCARED OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN WITHOUT ME IN YOUR LIFE. SURE, WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR SWEEPS, BUT JUST BECAUSE I'M GOING TO DIE, DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO TOO... I'D WANT YOU TO LIVE.. BECAUSE WHATEVER HAPPENS, THINGS GET BETTER.. I'VE WITNESSED IT MYSELF.. SO DON'T GIVE ME NONE OF THIS SHIT..

**Sollux Captor:** are you two 2tupiid two under2tand that ii cant 2iimply liive wiithout you? ii cant iimagiine liife wiithout you by my 2iide. iim not 2elfii2h, ii dont want two be. iim 2ure you would want two do the 2ame iif you were iin my place. becau2e ii dont care about my liife, ii ju2t want to be wiith you. iit2 more iimportant to me than anything el2e.

**Karkat Vantas:** sighs, giving up, he lies back down, pulling the blanket over himself.

**Sollux Captor:** how are you feeliing?

**Karkat Vantas:** NOT GONNA TELL YOU.

**Karkat Vantas:** SEEING AS YOU'RE NOT GONNA FUFILL MY LAST WISH.

**Sollux Captor:** kk 2top beeing 2uch a 2tubborn priick.

**Sollux Captor:** ii care about you more than about my2elf.

**Karkat Vantas:** NO, FUCK YOU.

**Karkat Vantas:** THEN YOU SHOULDN'T.

**Sollux Captor:** ii cant.

**Karkat Vantas:** THEN FUCK YOU.

**Sollux Captor:** why are you 2o har2h twoday?

**Karkat Vantas:** I COULD ASK THE SAME. NOW FUCK OFF AND LET ME SLEEP LIKE A STUPID OLD TROLL WHO ISN'T LISTENED TO.

**Karkat Vantas:** *huffs, curling up a bit, closing his eyes.*

**Sollux Captor:** ii know you wont be 2leepiing anyway.

**Karkat Vantas:** YEAH, I'LL BE DYING.

**Sollux Captor:** 2top talkiing about death, wiill you!?

**Karkat Vantas:** NO.

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN CARE SINCE YOU'LL BE DYING TOO.

**Sollux Captor:** ii dont want you two diie.

**Sollux Captor:** not yet.

**Karkat Vantas:** I DON'T WANT YOU TO EITHER. BUT SINCE YOU WON'T LISTEN TO ME, I WON'T LISTEN TO YOU.

**Sollux Captor:** but iif you diie fiir2t, you wont know iif iim 2tiill alive or not.

**Karkat Vantas:** EITHER WAY, I DON'T WANT YOU TO DIE BEFORE YOUR HOUR.

**Karkat Vantas:** *sighs and coughed again wheezing a little this time.*

**Sollux Captor:** but why do you have two diie fir2t? why?

**Karkat Vantas:** BECAUSE I'M A FUCKING MUTANT. I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LIVED ANYWAY.

**Karkat Vantas:** *let out a whining growl*

**Sollux Captor:** how can you 2ay that?

**Sollux Captor:** iit... iit hurt2.

**Karkat Vantas:** JUST AS YOU SAID THAT YOU'D KILL YOURSELF. IT HURT TOO.

**Karkat Vantas:** BUT YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT YOURSELF.

**Karkat Vantas:** I DON'T CARE ABOUT MYSELF EITHER.

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU SHOULD HAVE KNOWN.

**Karkat Vantas:** BUT NAH.

**Karkat Vantas:** WHATEVER.

**Sollux Captor:** how can you not care about your2elf when ii care about you 2o much?

**Karkat Vantas:** YET AGAIN, I CAN ASK THE SAME.

**Sollux Captor:** ugh.

**Karkat Vantas:** EXACTLY. NOE SHUT UP BEFORE YOU SAY ANYMORE STUPID SHIT.

**Sollux Captor:** 2top actiing liike you are older and 2marter.

**Karkat Vantas:** BUT I AM.

**Karkat Vantas:** DICKWAD.

**Sollux Captor:** no, you are not.

**Sollux Captor:** we are at exactly the 2ame age.

**Karkat Vantas:** BUT I LOOK OLDER, SO I AM.

**Karkat Vantas:** I LOOK LIKE AN OLD WRINKLED UP PRUNE.

**Karkat Vantas:** BUT YOU, I DON'T KNOW. YOU LOOK LIKE THAT TROLL GUY FROM THAT OLD FILM THERE, LOKI, WAS IT.

**Sollux Captor:** well you 2till 2wear liike an a22hole.

**Sollux Captor:** lokii?

**Sollux Captor:** 2eriiou2ly?

**Karkat Vantas:** YES, MOTHERFUCKER.

**Karkat Vantas:** AND I'LL \*cough cough coygh cough\* ..SWEAR AS MUCH AS I WANT YOU BITCHTIT GLITTER SHITTER.

**Sollux Captor:** 22hhhh.

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU SHH.

**Sollux Captor:** no, you 2hh, cau2e you are the one coughiing here.

**Karkat Vantas:** WHATEVER.

**Karkat Vantas:** *sighs, his breath sounding a bit wheezing.*

**Sollux Captor:** ii dont even remember when wa2 the la2t tiime ii kii22ed you...

**Karkat Vantas:** A SWEEP AND UH. TEN DAYS AGO.

**Sollux Captor:** *lets out a sigh, looking down.*

**Sollux Captor:** ii 2houldnt even be called your mate2priit anymore.

**Karkat Vantas:** IT'S OKAY THAT YOU DON'T WANNA KISS AN OLD MAN.

**Sollux Captor:** no.

**Karkat Vantas:** *sighs again*

**Sollux Captor:** ii do but iit2... diifferent.

**Karkat Vantas:** YEAH, SURE.

**Sollux Captor:** ii feel liike an iidiot here, not de2erviing you becau2e iim too much of an a22 to actually prove what ii feel.

**Karkat Vantas:** *coughs more, very violently, wheezing a little afterwards with a groan.*

**Sollux Captor:** iim really worriied about you though.

**Karkat Vantas:** HMPH..

**Karkat Vantas:** *sighs and curls up a bit, feeling pain in his chest.*

**Sollux Captor:** want me two hug you?

**Karkat Vantas:** ...I DON'T CARE.

**Sollux Captor:** well ii do.

**Karkat Vantas:** DO WHAT YOU WANT.

**Sollux Captor:** *pulls him into a hug gently, hiding his face in Karkat's grey mane*

**Karkat Vantas:** *rests his head on the other's shoulder, staring down at the ground, cringing in pain a little.*

**Karkat Vantas:** SOLLUX.

**Karkat Vantas:** ..

**Sollux Captor:** ye2?

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU'RE AN IDIOT. BUT.

**Karkat Vantas:** *Karkat's voice hushed a little into a sort of humming purr*

**Karkat Vantas:** But I love you..

**Sollux Captor:** *smiled slightly*

**Sollux Captor:** ii love you two.

**Karkat Vantas:** HM..

**Karkat Vantas:** *nuzzled just a little, trying to enjoy his last bit of affection from the other. He was afraid of death, very afraid. But he couldn't admit that, it would be too late anyway.*

**Karkat Vantas:** *was starting to feel tired. Very tired. He gave a few weak coughs.*

**Sollux Captor:** iit make2 me thiink of our cuddles a few 2weep2 ago... and that day when you kii22ed me for the fiir2t tiime. iit all miight 2eem diifferent now, but iit2 2tiill the 2ame. you and me, here, together. you have made me really happy over tho2e 2weep2, you know?

**Karkat Vantas:** YOU.. THE SAME..

**Sollux Captor:** you two.

**Sollux Captor:** you are 2tiill the 2ame per2on, kk.

**Karkat Vantas:** *shifts to be more comfortable as if preparing to nap. But it was different this time.*

**Karkat Vantas:** ..I AM..?

**Karkat Vantas:** *Karkat's voice grew a tad more croaky as it normally did when he was tired.*

**Sollux Captor:** ye2, the 2ame kk ii have loved 2iince the begiinniing.

**Karkat Vantas:** HEH...

**Sollux Captor:** now go two 2leep, kk.

**Sollux Captor:** you need iit.

**Karkat Vantas:** *gazes up at him with heavy eyelids.*

**Karkat Vantas:** DO ME A FAVOUR FIRST...

**Sollux Captor:** what favour?

**Karkat Vantas:** Kiss me..

**Sollux Captor:** *leans down slowly, closing his eyes and planting the softest kiss on his lips, like it wasn't even there. But he kept his lips to Karkat's for a longer moment, a tear running down his nose before dropping at the other troll's cheek.*

**Karkat Vantas:** *Karkat's lips lightly responded before his eyelids closed, he slowly falling limp. But it didn't seem like sleep, he had faded too quickly. His chest raises and falls, one last time, he letting out a last breath. As so too, his hemopumper beated for the last time, his body now pale and cold. Sollux's tear now dwelled on his cold cheek.*

**Sollux Captor:** *pulls away just a slightest bit before whispering "goodniight, kk".*

**Karkat Vantas:** *Karkat's lifeless body lays peaceful looking in Sollux's arms*

**Sollux Captor:** *couldn't say anything anymore. He couldn't even cry, screams not wanting to leave his throat, making him stay in a weird state between understanding and acceptance. He just pulled Karkat's head close to his chest, hugging him tightly and not wanting to let go. If there was someone else in the room, they would obviously tell him to leave the body. But he couldn't. He still believed there was something of his Karkat in that limp, old shell. It was him. The only person that he really loved. And the only who loved him back. Here. Dead, in his arms. What did he do to deserve that?*

**Karkat Vantas:** *There was nothing to prove that he was alive, no pulse, no breath, nothing. His body lay stone cold in the other's arms.*

**Sollux Captor:** *he wanted to believe he was still alive but now it was just a void in his mind. He couldn't think about killing himself anymore. His brain stopped working, his*



*eyes still closed and he saw dark. Dark of lack of any sense to live anymore. Though he couldn't move. All of his body cells were connected and focused on holding Karkat to his chest, as if he wanted to give him his own heartbeat just by the touch. All of those dreams couldn't come true, sadly. If he only could change bodies with him at this moment. Karkat deserved to be alive more than him. Psionics couldn't help him with it.*

**Karkat Vantas:** *He was no longer anything else but an empty shell. Hard to believe but true. The other could do nothing anymore. Karkat was gone.*