

Chapter 201

Was it awkward or was I just being my weird overthinking self again? I was listening to the conversation happening around the table while eating my food.

Lacey was massive and I joked about there being two in there, but she corrected me and was sure there was only one. Were we okay? Was the awkwardness there because of me?

Was I making it awkward?

A sigh fell from my lips. I was becoming annoyed with myself for being stupid. We were all friends, the best of friends. I was overthinking the situation like always.

"I miss this". Lana smiled. "We never hang out anymore".

She wasn't wrong. I was surprised we all made it here today. Everyone was always busy living their own lives.

"Life gets busy". I shrugged. "But you're right we need to do this more often". I took a sip of my coke my eyes landing on Lacey.

She had barely touched her food at all.

"Are you okay?". I asked.

"Fine". She smiled.

"Okay". Jake's voice was ringing in my head. I was not to push her; she didn't feel comfortable around me as it is because of the pregnancy which again was the stupidest thing I had ever heard.

"Pregnancy is kicking your ass Lacey". Alanna spoke. "Are you still being sick?".

She nodded.

"Have you tried ginger?". I asked.

"I have sickness tablets but they're not working. I'm sick all day everyday".

"I would try the ginger. Charlotte said it worked a treat when she was pregnant with the twins".

"I will". She smiled. "Thanks Leah and look I'm sorry".

"Lana let's go order more tacos". Alanna grabbed her arm pulling her from

her seat. "We'll be back".

"Hey". Lana groaned. "Don't pull me".

"I haven't exactly been a good friend". She sighed. "I just couldn't face you".

"You don't need to explain yourself Lace".

"I do". She nodded. "But please understand I didn't want to avoid you or put distance between us but-...". A sigh fell from her lips. "You lost your baby, and I couldn't bring myself to shove my pregnancy in your face".

"You know I would never think that, Lacey. I'm happy for you this is an exciting time, and I wish you nothing but happiness". I reached over placing my hand on top of hers. "I'm always here for you".

"It's horrible". She spoke. "This is supposed to be a happy time in my life, and I hate it. I'm sick every day, I can't sleep at night because I can never get comfortable and the pain in my legs is excruciating".

I felt sorry for her. She wasn't catching a break, and she still had a long way to go before the baby was due.

"I'm going to get your house back to you". It was the least I could do. My gran would just have to live somewhere else.

"No". She frowned. "It's not our house and Jack prefers staying at his parents. He doesn't like me being left alone".

"Is that what you want?". I asked.

"It's for the best". She shrugged. "And I would never expect your gran to move out just for us".

Yeah, well she was the one that up and left in the first place, but I guess she was right. I couldn't ever see myself throwing my gran out. I wouldn't be able to bring myself to do that.

"So, we're good?". I asked.

"Always". She grinned. "I really am sorry Leah. I should never have thought that in the first place. How are you doing with it all?". She asked.

"I'm okay keeping busy". Talking about the loss of my baby wasn't something I was ready to talk about and I wasn't sure if I would ever be ready. Jake and I have dealt with it our own way. We're happy, we're in a good place.

Maybe I'll never talk about it because honestly, I don't think I need to. It had nothing to do with anyone else. It wasn't going to do anyone any good and yeah, maybe keeping it locked away wasn't the answer, but I was doing what was best for me.

Right now, that's what was best for me. It happened and then it didn't, and I was okay with that. I was a strong believer of everything happens for a reason and sadly it wasn't our time but that didn't mean it was never going to happen again.

We would have a family one day.

Like the sweetheart she is she took the hint and for that I was grateful. Not that she or anyone else would ever force me into talking about it.

"So, your gran being back. Is she back for good?". She asked.

I shrugged. "A lot has happened these past few weeks". I didn't believe that Jack hadn't told her anything and I'm quite sure he was aware. Jake needed someone to talk to about all this as well and Jack was his best friend.

"I've heard a few things". She spoke. "Well Jack has shared a few things with me. Did your dad really kidnap you?".

I couldn't help the laugh that fell from my lips. It sounded weird when I heard it coming from someone else. I mean whose dad kidnaps them? But could we really say it was kidnap? He took me but it wasn't out of badness.

"Sorry I shouldn't laugh about it, but it all worked out. He's here visiting just now".

"So, he did really take you?". She frowned.

"He did". I nodded. "But it wasn't out of badness or spite. He felt the only way he could see me was to bring me to him. I've already went over it all a thousand times and we're good. It's all sorted it's self out".

"Oh, okay".

"Weird right?". I grinned.

"Very". She laughed. "Surely he could have called you or at least sent a text?".

"Right". I laughed. "But regardless I'm glad he's here and for once

everything seems to be looking up".

"I'm glad and I'm happy you're finally getting some peace. Am I right in saying you applied for college?"

I nodded. Jake didn't know I had been accepted yet, so I didn't want to tell anyone before him.

"You do know Mr. Gallagher is the dean there, right?"

"Yeah". I made a face. "But it's not high school and if I do get accepted, he's not exactly going to be teaching me".

"Yeah, but what if he's the reason you don't get in? He was a bastard at times". She spoke.

"Can we come over yet?". Alanna yelled from two tables over. "Or are you two not good yet?"

Was it bad I forgot they two were here with us.

"We're good". Lacey smiled.

We hung out a little longer, but it wasn't long before Lacey wasn't feeling well again, and I was driving everyone home. Once it was just me and Alanna, she let slip that she knew what Lana did.

"Does Jake know?". She asked.

"She didn't have a choice, Alanna. We've talked about it and it's all water under the bridge". I wasn't going to get into it with her. Lana did what she had to do to save Pete.

She knew nothing of what was going on and if I was in that position I'd have done the same thing.

"But what if it wasn't your family and someone else?"

"I'll drive to mine, but you'll have to drive back to yours". Surely, she'd take the hint that I wasn't going to talk about it. There was nothing to talk about and I wasn't going to let her make a big deal out of it.

And if it was someone else that took me then I'm sure Jake would have done everything in his power to get me back. See this is why I didn't want to talk about it. I didn't need to make up scenarios of what could have happened in my head.

"Okay". She sighed. "But it was still a shitty thing she did".

"Alanna". I warned.

"Okay, okay I won't bring it up again".

"Good because I really don't want to talk about it again". I pulled up at the side of the road outside my house. "I'll see you through the week at some point".

"Bye gal".

I headed inside and found Jake on the couch. Football on the tv and a bowl of chips in his lap.

"Hey babe". He spoke.

"Hi". I sat down beside him laying my head on his shoulder. "Where's my dad?".

"Said he had somethings to sort out, but he'd be back later. He's taking you to dinner isn't he".ac

"Meant to be but I'm not sure I can be bothered".

"How come? Was lunch, okay?". He asked.

"Lunch was good, great even. Lacey and I talked it out and we're good but tonight I don't know if I can be bothered getting dressed up to go out". It was a lame excuse but these days I couldn't be bothered doing anything.

"Then tell him that. Be honest babe it's the best way to start fresh".

"Do you think he'll be offended if I offer takeout and a night in front of the tv?".

A laugh fell from his lips as he slipped his arm around my shoulders. "I'm sure he'll love anything as long as he's getting to spend time with you".

"And you". I added. "You're not leaving me to do this on my own just yet. I don't know if I'm ready for that".

"Ah shit". He sighed. "I'm on nightshift patrol".

"Why are you patrolling?". I frowned. "Did something happen?".

"No babe but the young wolfs are coming of age and I like to supervise them at times. With Lacey being pregnant Jack isn't exactly in the position to do it".

"But tonight?". I asked.

"It's just the way the dates have landed Leah. We do this once or twice a month but if you really need me there tonight then I'll send Carter".

"No, no it's fine honestly, I'm just being stupid and overthinking it".

"Are you sure?"

I nodded. "He's my dad so I've no reason to be nervous right?"

"Exactly". He leaned in placing a kiss on the tip of my nose. "It's probably best I'm not here. It means you can build and work on your relationship".

He was talking sense, but I still had this little itch about something not seeming right or something was going to go wrong.

We still had the dinner with my gran to get through and I wasn't sure how that was going to go.

We fell into a comfortable silence as he placed the remote on my lap giving me free rein of the tv. I lay my head against his chest as I settled on the new season of the real housewives of Beverly hills.

Jake didn't mind he loved the drama.

"So, I need to tell you something". I spoke after a while.

I don't know why I was just telling him about college now. I guess the timing wasn't right and it didn't really come up in conversation. Plus, I had yet to receive my acceptance letter.

"What's that?". He asked.

"I got accepted into college". I chewed the inside of my cheek my heart hammering in my chest.

"You did that's amazing babe I'm so proud of you". He kissed the top of my head. "And you thought you wouldn't get in". He laughed.

"I thought I applied to late, but I guess not. This is a good thing, isn't it?". I asked.

"Of course, it is". His arm tightened around my shoulders. "I'm proud of you for going through with it. You'll do amazing things and achieve everything you want".

"You really think so?"

"Leah, I want nothing but the best for you. I'll always support you through everything and I think right now this will be really good for you. It's been a

tough few months' but with this you finally get to focus your time on something else. I'm excited for you*.

"Me too I'm excited to start*.