

Chapter 12-The Reason

(Millie)

I stomped up to my room, feeling like I was throwing a tantrum just like the child I claimed not to be..but I couldn't help it..I felt so embarrassed by how my dad was treating me..and how Adrian looked at me..

I just don't know what to do anymore. After he helped me in the car, I felt like Adrian was disappointed in me for punching Cody.

I didn't exactly plan on doing it..it just kind of happened. Now Mom is upset..but at least Dad didn't seem angry about that part, if anything he seemed a little too happy now that I think about it. He really must not like those Nelson boys.

I walked towards my room, opening the door quickly as I let out a sigh and plopped down onto the bed.

I felt my heart aching..was I a little too harsh on Dad? I never spoke to him like that before..I didn't really like it to be honest..it's not who I am.

Suddenly there was a soft knock on the door, making me turn my head before speaking.

"Come in." I muttered, and I knew it was Dad just from the way he knocked.

He slowly walked into my room, prompting me to bury my face into the pillow as I felt too embarrassed to even look at him.

"Hey Mil, are you okay?" He asked, prompting me to nod my head as I felt my lip tremble.

"I'm sorry for ruining your night." He stated, making me stiffen as I felt a wave of emotions crashing through me.

I quickly sat up and scrambled into my dad's lap, taking him by surprise as he wrapped his arms around me tightly.

"I'm sorry for yelling.." I whispered, feeling bad for the way I acted..but I still meant what I said.

I wanted to be seen as more than just a kid, not only by my dad..but he doesn't need to know that last part.

"It's okay, I shouldn't have had Ronan check on you..I just get so worried.." He stated, making me pull back before looking up at him.

"But I would never lie to you, dad..I wouldn't do something you told me not to and it hurts to think you don't trust me." I confessed.

Then Dad lifted his hands, holding my face gently before brushing my hair behind my ears.

"It's not you that I don't trust Mil..there are some things I haven't told you about your mom. She was a year older than you when it all happened." He began, making my brow furrow as I searched his gaze in confusion.

"What do you mean?" I asked, seeing sadness ll my dad's eyes.

"Well, there was this boy that was on the same basketball team as your Uncle Carson and me in college. He met your mom at a party once." My dad started to tell me as I listened intently. I had never heard this story before.

"Your mom, being the nice person she is tried to just be friendly with him. But he took it too far. He became obsessed with her Millie..he went as far as stalking her and then..then he took her.." He said rmly, and I could see that talking about it made my dad upset.

I sat up straighter, a gasp escaping me as I didn't know what to say..took her..like kidnapped her?!

"Your Grandpa Scott was able to get to her on time..but just going through that, it changed our lives forever."

"W-What happened to the guy? Is he in jail?" I rushed out.

"No, Grandpa Scott had to make a quick decision that day..and if he hadn't, your mom might not be here today." He whispered and I threw myself into his arms, hugging him tightly as I buried my face against his chest.

"I'm sorry Daddy..I didn't know..and mom..poor mom." I cried, feeling hurt for my parents that they had to go through that. How is Mom still so kind and loving after all of that? She really is the strongest person ever..

"It's okay..but with you and your brothers..that fear stayed with me..if something like that ever happened to you..I couldn't bear it Millie." He confessed, making me nod in understanding as I hugged my dad tighter.

"I get it now..but I wish you would've told me sooner." I stated, feeling my dad nod his head while he rubbed my back soothingly.

"I know..I just wanted to keep you in that little bubble forever..to protect you and keep you safe. But I know it isn't right..I know you aren't a little girl anymore Millie, it's just so hard to accept that." He laughed, making me laugh with him as pulled back a little and wiped my cheeks.

"It's hard for me too Dad..but I will have Ronan up at school, and I promise I won't make any stupid decisions..I know it's hard to trust other people, but you have to trust me to make the right choices.." I said, causing my dad to sigh dramatically

"Why do you have to be so smart and kind just like your mother.." He grumbled, and I burst into laughter while climbing back onto the bed.

"Well..I did punch Cody..so maybe I'm not exactly like mom.." I said sheepishly, prompting my dad to smile even wider.

"Man, I wish I could've seen that one..but don't tell your mom I said that." He quickly rushed out.

"Oh, I already heard it." Mom said from the doorway, making me laugh at Dad as he slumped his shoulders.

"Millie, you better get some sleep sweetheart..and you, we need to have that talk now." My mom stated while pointing at me and then my dad.

"Yes Dear.." Dad teased, prompting my mom to bend over and pick up a stuffed animal before chucking it at Dad's head.

"You are really asking for it aren't you." She grumbled, kicking his butt as he passed by her and I couldn't help but roll my eyes and go to lay back down.

"Millie.." My mom whispered.

"Yeah?" I asked curiously, watching as she leaned a little more into the room.

"I'm not mad about the punch..in fact, I wish I would've had that bravely when I was your age." She smiled warmly, making my chest tighten as I nodded once, trying not to cry.

"I love you mom."

"I love you too Mil..now get ready for bed okay?" She said and I smiled at her and watched as she closed the door gently.

Then I heard footsteps running and knew she must've been chasing Dad down.

I laid there for a moment, thinking about everything Dad told me as I understood how he felt a little bit more now. But maybe he will see my side of things more too..he can trust me because I'm not going to do anything to hurt him or Mom ever.

After a few minutes of staring at the ceiling, I nally rolled out of bed and changed into my sleep shorts and an oversized shirt.

I thought I heard Luca and Jax laughing downstairs, so I was guessing all the guys were still up.

I debated for a moment if I should go down..but I don't think I have the energy for that just yet.

I opened my door, creeping down the hall as I headed for the bathroom when I suddenly ran into somebody.

I let out a gasp, my eyes snapping up as I felt two strong hands wrap around my waist to steady me.

Adrian..

We stood there for a moment, staring at one another as I studied those ocean-blue eyes carefully.

Was he still mad at me?

Adrian cleared his throat, his hands letting me go as I stumbled back a little, trying to regain my balance.

"Sorry.." I mumbled, putting my head down as I went to walk around him.

"Wait..how..how is your hand?" He suddenly asked, his ngertips gliding down my arm before gripping my wrist and raising it slightly.

"Um..it doesn't hurt." I squeaked, my heart hammering in my chest as I felt my skin warming from his touch.

I watched in shock as his ngertips slid along my palm, holding it gently and raising my hand up towards his face.

"For what it's worth..I know you're not a kid anymore Millie." He said slowly, and I swear my heart stopped..that one phrase throwing me out into orbit as I didn't know what to say in response.

"But you're still my best friend's little sister..so even if you're not a kid..that's how I'll always see you."

Ouch..

I felt like I had just been slapped...

I jerked my arm away, my eyes now avoiding his as I clenched my hand into a st.

"Well, I don't see you like a brother..in fact..you're kind of annoying." I spat, feeling petty from that burn I just got.

"Annoying? You think I'm annoying?" Adrian asked with a scoff, clearly nding what I said amusing.

"Yes..very..so if you will excuse me." I grumbled, crossing my arms in front of my chest as I went to pass him..but just as I did, Adrian stuck his arm out, stopping me as he quickly turned his body and came closer.

I stepped back, ending up ush against the wall as my eyes widened in shock. What is he doing?!

"What exactly do you nd annoying?" Adrian whispered, his body towering above me as those blue orbs burned into me.

I swear I could feel his warm breath fanning across my face..the smell of him invading my nostrils as I tried not to inhale deeply like some creep.

"Y-you dress weird."

What the heck did I just say?!

"I..dress weird? How do I dress weird?" He asked curiously and I don't even know why I said that..Adrian dressed rather plainly..I mean, he looked sexy in anything he wore..but it wasn't like he wore crazy colors or anything.

I swallowed hard, my eyelashes uttering as he slowly inched closer and closer to me.

Why was he so close?

"I'm waiting McNeal.." Adrian whispered, the seduction that oozed out of this man was enough to make my knees go weak as I tried so hard not to crumple to the oor.

"I...I.."

"Adrian! You coming?!" My brother's voice boomed from downstairs as Adrian pulled back from me..his eyes blinking rapidly as he turned his head away.

"You better get some sleep, you had a long day." Adrian stated coldly and turned on his heel, leaving me alone in the hallway as I was left staring after him in complete shock.

What the hell was that?!