

Chapter 17-Can You Hear Me?

(Millie)

My finger hovered above the send button..my eyes boring into the text I was about to send as guilt flooded through me.

"What the hell am I thinking?!" I rushed out, deleting what I had just written before tossing the phone to the side.

I can't be Penny..I could never be Penny and if I pretended to be her..yeah, that would be worse than anything.

I laid back on the bed, my heartbeat seeming to grow louder by the second as my phone suddenly rang, making me jump.

I glanced over, seeing a number I didn't recognize as I quickly grabbed my phone and pressed it to my ear.

"Hello?"

"Oh nice, it does work!" Penny's voice came through the phone making me gasp.

"Penny! Did you make it there okay?!" I asked



worriedly, the realization of what I was about to do settling in.

"Oh yeah...it was insane Mil, we had to hike up this mountain for like two hours.." She explained.

"How's it going there? I'm guessing you haven't spilled the beans yet considering I haven't seen any helicopters flying around." She teased making me swallow hard.

"No..I think it's okay..I just..well, Adrian texted you."
I squeaked out, wanting to free my conscious.

"Who? Did you say Adrian?"

"Yeah..he..he asked if you wanted to get a drink sometime." I whispered, feeling my stomach flip as she went quiet for a few seconds.

"Mil..tell him no. Write him back that I'm not interested and see him only as a friend." Penny stated, making my eyes widen as I nodded to myself, forgetting that I had to speak.

"Millie..ugh..l guess now is a better time than any."
She grumbled, making my brow furrow as I
wondered what she was talking about.

"Listen..my boyfriend..well..umm..he is actually a she..I'm gay. So you don't have to worry about all of that s**t with Adrian because I'm not interested



whatsoever..and honestly I don't think he really likes me. I think he is deflecting or some s**t truthfully." She rambled making my mouth drop open.

"Wait..what did you say?" I asked, surprise filling me as I tried to play back her words.

"That Adrian doesn't really like me?"

"No Penny..are you..you like girls?" I asked, wondering why the hell I was just learning about this now! I mean..it's not like I would judge her or anything..I love Penny and would accept her no matter what.

"Oh..yeah that..well, I think so. It's kind of a thing since fifth grade...I just never really found any guys attractive before. That's partly why I didn't want my dad to know about this trip...I'm just not ready to tell him yet and felt like being a coward and hiding away.." She laughed sadly, making me frown as I stood up from my bed and walked towards my window.

"You're not a coward Pen..! understand, this is a huge thing for you..but you know everyone loves you. Your dad might be a little surprised..but he would accept and love you no matter what. Besides, if you hide this forever..will you really be happy? It would suck to have to sneak around for



the rest of your life. and keep that a secret." I said, feeling emotional for my cousin as I stared down at our pool aimlessly.

"Thank you, Mil..! love you too and you saying that means the world..but can I be honest?" She asked making me stiffen by what she might say next.

"Uh yeah sure."

"Maybe you should take your own advice..!
mean..how long have you secretly loved Adrian? I
think it's time to either make a move on
that..or..move on from it. But do you know how I
knew Adrian wasn't really into me?"

"How?" I breathed, wondering what she knew that I didn't.

"Because every time I see him..he is looking at you Millie and the moment anyone noticed, then he would look at me..so whatever you think he feels for me..he is obviously deflecting.." She stated and I swear my mind started to spin..that can't be true..right?

Does that mean...that look in Adrian's eyes...

"No..he asked you out..he said it would be a date."
I informed her.

"Yeah because Ro has been pushing him to do

+5 Points

that shit...I'm telling you Mil.. it's you. And what you want to do with that information is your decision..but..if it were me. I would make the guy come out and say it..." She said mischievously, making confusion fill me.

"Come out and say it? What do you mean? How would I do that?" I rushed out.

"Oh shit...I gotta go...but listen, you think that Adrian sees you as a little sister right? Well...maybe show him you're not...you are a woman now Mil, and a hot ass one at that."

I am?

"Okay, be right there!" My cousin yelled, making me start to panic.

"No wait! How do I do that though Penny?!" I asked hastily, making her laugh.

"Wear a bikini all summer..flirt with some guys..just be yourself Mil and I'm telling you he will snap eventually. Now I have to go but I will call tomorrow and we can draw up a plan. Love you! Oh and thanks for helping me..bye!"

And with that..she hung up..leaving me staring down at the phone as I tried to process everything.

What just happened? I swear Penny just dropped a

#6 Points

nuke on me..not only did she tell me she is into women..but then she went and threw all that Adrian stuff out there..that can't be true can it?

Suddenly my mind began going back..all the looks Adrian gave Penny..and then to last night and this morning at the mall. Could he really be deflecting?

He was acting a little more touchy and friendly..he never did that before.

I went back to my bed, grabbed Penny's phone, and pulled up the chat before quickly typing out a message.

To Adrian Dawson: Sorry, I don't see you like that Adrian. I only see you as a friend.

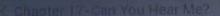
I sent, doing exactly what Penny said to do as I let out a shuddering breath.

I couldn't believe I was about to do that..we will just chalk it up to temporary insanity.

I walked towards my mirror, looking at my reflection as I took option three off of the table. No, I wasn't going to do any of those options..

I was going to do what Penny said..I was going to make Adrian Dawson see me as a woman.

Then if he still says he only sees me as a little





sister..! will move on from this once and for all..but one thing I know for sure is that this summer..it's going to change everything.



Megan Elisabeth

hey guys!! hope you all recovered from the last chapter hahaha



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