

Her Secret 85

CHAPTER 85 NO.85

“Thanks for dropping me off.” Lana said to Zane as the car came to a halt in front of her house. She gripped on her purse with one hand and the other went to the door handle.

“No worries. Get enough rest, okay?” he called out to her.

Lana forced herself to glance back at him, catching his charming smile and unconsciously she smiled back. “I will. Goodbye.” She bided as she pushed the door open. She shut it behind her and waved at him through the window before heading up to the front door.

Zane watched as she entered the house and once she shut the door behind her, he let out a breath he did not realise he was holding. A weird feeling was creeping up on him, was it disappointment or was it displeasure, he could not put a finger to this sudden feeling. Every time he felt like he was getting closer to Lana, something would happen and they were at square one again.

He pondered over what he could've done differently this morning, if he didn't show her how upset he was then maybe she wouldn't be walking on thin ice around him. How was he going to make her fall back in love with him now that she was slowly becoming aware of her true intentions? It was getting tiresome at this point but Zane had to pull through, he had to make Lana his—no matter what it took. After a moment, he drove away.

Lana walked to the empty kitchen and grabbed a clean cup to fill with water. As she chugged the liquid to quench her dry throat, she noticed a note on the refrigerator.

There's some fried rice in the fridge for you. Have it for lunch :) - Ray

Lana smiled as she pulled the fridge open and eyes the bowl wrapped in cling film. She took a mental note of this so she could eat it later when she got hungry but for now all she wanted to do was sleep. Her hangover headache subsided earlier but her body felt incredibly heavy. She quickly rinsed the cup and made her way to her bathroom where she stripped before heading in for a quick shower. Even though she already had a shower back at Zane's place, she got all sweaty and sticky when they had sex again before he drove her home.

She stood under the blazing water for a long moment, unmoving as she allowed herself to feel the strange comfort she felt from the heated water. Steam surrounded the bathroom in an instant and soon her vision was blurry from the heavy steam. She touched her stomach unconsciously, the feeling of Zane's shape lingered inside of her and she couldn't help but to find the sensation rather irritable.

She sighed as she closed her eyes and attempted to clear her mind so she could remember what exactly happened last night at the party and also what she did to make Zane mad. For someone who has only ever shown the positive sides of him, Lana must have done something truly heinous for him to be that upset. She thought that if she backtracked what happened from the start, then she would eventually

remember everything. She recalled being in the car with Carmen and Suzie as they drove to Isabel's house. She remembered seeing Avery there and they all hung out together throughout the night.

Lana kept drinking the fruit punch since it did not taste like there was any alcohol in it. It was sweet, too sweet for her liking but she couldn't stop drinking it. She went to the restroom after a while of talking to her friends and on her journey to find a restroom, she bumped into someone. Lana then opened her eyes immediately and turned off the water. Maybe it was better if she remained oblivious as to what happened, she thought as she walked out of the shower and grabbed the nearby towel.

In her room, she dried herself up before reaching to wear some shorts. As she rummaged through her closet for a comfy top, she could hear her window being opened. She twirled around in shock, simultaneously grabbing the closest shirt to cover her exposed upper half. River hopped into her room casually as his eyes met hers.

"I was wondering when you were coming back home." He said, his voice calm and steady.

Lana gawked at him in shock. Did he seriously just break into her room, again? "Um..." she muttered.

"What?" he raised his eyebrow at her.

"Why are you here...?"

"I came to check up on you." He told her.

"...could you turn around for a second?" she asked him nicely, wanting to get fully dressed before they continued their conversation.

River frowned, wondering why she was being so shy when he had already seen her naked before. But he did as she asked, turning his back to her to give her some privacy. The moment River turned around, Lana hastily put on her t-shirt. She glanced at the nearby mirror, noting how her wet hair was wetting her shirt and causing it to cling onto her body. She let out a sigh as she dug through her closet to get a hand towel to dry her hair.

"Are you done?" she heard him call out.

"Yeah." She replied. River turned to face her once more but his attention went to her wiping her wet hair with a soft looking towel. Their gazes met once again and Lana let out a sigh. "You know, I would really appreciate it if you could come from the front door like a normal person next time."

"...Right." He muttered even though he wanted to tell her that this method was faster and easier for him.

"Sorry if I worried you last night." She said to him as she walked over to her bedside table to charge her phone.

“Where did you go? No one could get in touch with you.”

“I...went to a friend’s place.”

“Does this friend have a name?” he asked as he leaned against the open window, sitting on the edge as he watched her every move.

“Does it really matter?” Lana frowned, feeling annoyed that her simple plan to sleep her fatigue away was ruined by him and here he was interrogating her as though she owed him an explanation.

“I was just asking. Didn’t mean to upset you.” He said softly.

Lana frowned, finding his words to be out of character for the brash and aggressive River she knew. She then studied his expression for a moment, and he stared back with an indifferent look plastered on his face.

“Why are you here?” she asked him again.

“I already told you. I came to check up on you.” He said, although he found it weird that she was acting so normal even though she ran away from him last night after he confessed to her. He was expecting her to be mean to him, to chase him out of her room but she acted as though nothing happened between them last night. Nothing at all. He let out a soft sigh, realising that the alcohol must’ve played a part in this.

“Why are you still here? You checked up on me, I’m alive and well aren’t I?” Lana snapped. She then saw his expression shift slightly but he was doing his best to keep that poker face on.

“If you want me to leave, you can just say so.” He countered.

“I...want you to leave...” she hesitantly said, her mind was swirling as to why River was acting so—docile.

“Say it like you mean it.” he said as he made his way towards her. “Say it.” he repeated as he towered over her. His eyes then widened now that he was standing close to her. Besides her usual smell, there was another scent lingering on her skin. It was hard to make out whose scent it was since Lana just got out of the shower but he was confident that he recognized this scent. River leaned closer to her and sniffed, causing Lana to flinch back away from him.

“R-River?” she called out through her confusion.

“That friend of yours...was Railey?” he asked her, and Lana felt her heart drop at the saddened expression that tainted his perfect features.

“...so what?”

“You slept with him?” he asked, trying to keep his voice calm and composed.

“...it has nothing to do with you.”

Nothing to do with him? River wanted to laugh but the overwhelming aching sensation in his chest made him bite his tongue. “Right.” He said as he backed away from her. “Congratulations. You’ve liked him for a while now, right?” he forced a smile.

Lana stayed silent, not sure what to say to him. she averted her gaze from him, somehow feeling guilty that he found out this way...but why would she even feel guilty for sleeping with someone else when River and her weren’t even together? She frowned, trying to make sense of her strange feelings. She then noticed River walking back towards the window. He paused for a second and turned back to face her. Their eyes met and they stared at each other for a painstaking moment.

“I wish you happiness, Lana.” He told her with a small smile before turning back to jump out of the window.

Lana? He called out her name...but this was not the first time he called out her name. she remembered the night they slept together, he said it then but he also said it last night. He was there at the party. Lana let out a gasp as her memories of last night came crashing back into her.

“River wait!” she cried out, causing him to freeze in his spot. “L-Last night...” her voice trembled. She was upset at herself for even forgetting such an important moment, she was angry that at that time she chose to run away instead of talking it out.

“What about last night?” he asked when she did not continue.

Lana fidgeted with the towel in her hand, not daring to look up at him. How could she face him now, when not only did she run away after he confessed to her but she straight up forgot. Lana could blame the alcohol all she wanted but she knew that deep down it was her own unconsciousness that made her forget in the first place. She was the cause of this mess—everything was her fault because all she ever did was deny her own emotions. She did it with Zane back in middle school and now—wasn’t she doing it again with River?

“I’m sorry I ran away from you last night...that was a horrible thing to do to someone after they...confessed their feelings.” She finally spoke out. River stayed silent, waiting for her to continue. “I don’t blame you if you hate me for that...if you want to yell at me and degrade me for being a terrible person.”

“I don’t. I don’t want to do any of those things.” He clarified.

Her chest clenched painfully as she thought that maybe it would be easier to deal with this if he was angry, if he did yell at her and called her names but he was being nice to her. He was being

understanding and it was truly hurting her heart. Why was he being so kind to her when all she ever did was hurt him?

"...I'm just confused. I know that doesn't justify my actions but I truly don't know what to do or what I want..." she admitted wholeheartedly.

"You just don't know who you want, Lana. But you made your choice, didn't you? You choose Railey." He emphasised Zane's name.

"T-That's not true!" she said, trying to defend herself but he was right. Under the influence of alcohol or not, she made the decision to sleep with Zane willingly and that was the result of her running away from River's feelings for her. "I..."

"Look, it's fine. You made your choice and I'm not going to be petty and come between you two. As I said before, I only hope for happiness for you, Lana. And I meant it."

"Then why do you look like that?"

"Like what?"

"Like you are about to cry."

River scoffed. "I wonder what you think of me when you look at me. Do you see an emotionless beast? Do you think I would not be hurt that the woman I love ran away from me and slept with another man? I know I'm a werewolf but that doesn't mean I don't hurt like any other human being." He snapped. His eyes then widened when he noticed that Lana was the one crying instead. Shit. He thought. He fucked up again, he made her cry yet again.